

* *Happy Father's Day...*

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Agawam 65¢

Advertiser News

Volume XXVI Number 24

"Your Hometown Newspaper"

June 12, 2003



Celebrate "Flag Day" in Agawam

Sat., June 14th

Six Flags New England will kick off a "Military Appreciation Day" at 3:00 p.m.

A Flag Day Concert will be held at Agawam High School at 7:00 p.m.



OUR ANNUAL "GRADUATION ISSUE" will be published on

Thurs., June 19th.

The deadline for ALL college

announcements,

scholarship news,

photos, etc., is Monday, June 16th, at 12:00 noon.

Agawam Fire Dept. Ambulance Service receives prestigious award...



DURING "EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK 2003" (May 18th-24th), the Hampden County EMS Awards Banquet was held at the Polish-American Citizens Club of Ludlow. At this event, the Agawam Fire Department Ambulance Service was honored with the "Service of the Year Award" in recognition of its achievements, lives saved, and quality of performance. Back row: Agawam firefighters Fred Giordano and Vin Pietroniro, Deputy Fire Chief Steve Martin, Mayor Richard Cohen, Fire Chief David Pisano, and Agawam firefighters Robert Kerr and Paul Fenn. Front row: Agawam firefighters Jim Kalbaugh, Bob Ferrier, R.J. Pensivy, and Mark Kimball. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.

To our subscribers: Early-bird renewals



Thank you to our subscribers who have already renewed their subscriptions for the discounted rate of \$23.50.

Through June 20th, those subscribers who wish to take advantage of the pay-early discount should mail their check

for \$23.50 to Turley Publications, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069, Attn: AAN Renewals.

If you are also renewing a subscription for someone else, please indicate this on a separate piece of

paper. Please include their name and address. As always, we ask you to please write legibly.

You can also stop by our office at 23 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills Center (2nd floor) to renew your subscriptions as well during this time. Someone on staff will be happy to take care of you.

Only those subscribers who have not renewed their subscription by the June 20th cutoff date will receive a renewal card in the mail, and the price is \$27. We ask you to please forward your payment to Turley Publications, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069, Attn: AAN Renewals.

As always, our goal is to provide you, our subscribers, with the best hometown newspaper possible

52 weeks a year. We are proud of our product and appreciate the many kind words, suggestions, comments, and encouragement we receive from townspeople throughout the year. We look forward to an even better *Advertiser News* in the coming year.

Please, if there are any questions concerning your subscriptions, or if we can help solve a problem, call us at 786-7747 and one of our staff will be happy to serve you.

Ric Sardella



Recycling information for Agawam residents

Curbside recycling should include the following items:

Paper: newspapers/inserts; magazines, catalogs, office paper; junk mail, phone books (remove covers), brown paper bags; corrugated cardboard (flatten, 2'x3' max.); paperboard (cereal, cracker boxes). *NO wax, soiled, wet wrapping, or coated plastic paper. No pizza boxes, egg cartons, or wrapping paper. NO styrofoam.*

Mixed paper should be placed in paper bags and set on top of or next to Blue Recycling Bins.

Containers: Glass bottles/jars (clear, green, and brown - less than two gallons); aluminum/tin/ and steel cans; aluminum foil; all plastic containers; milk cartons and juices boxes.

NO broken glass or other glass items such as drinking glasses, window glass, Pyrex, ceramics, light bulbs. No cans containing hazardous material. No unmarked containers or motor oil containers. No plastic bags.

Be sure to rinse clean all containers and place in Blue Recycling Bins.

Scheduled and/or seasonal collection

White Goods, Bulk Items, Household Furniture and Electronics - by appointment only! Call BFI at 592-9411;

Yard Waste (leaves, grass and other easily raked material) - collection days as scheduled*** Materials must be placed in 30-gallon, 2-ply Kraft Paper Bags to be collected***

Branches - 1"-3" diameter x 3 feet long. Tie tie into bundles weighing no more than 50 lbs.

Christmas Trees - collected with regular trash in January.

Auto Tires - collected with regular trash pick-up. One per pick-up. Rims must be removed.

Car Batteries/Motor Oil - drop off at DPW garage, M-F 8am-3pm

Rechargeable Batteries (clearly marked as Ni-Cd, Ni-Mh, Li-ion, Pb accepted) - Drop off at the Agawam Town Hall front entrance. Look for a clearly marked Rechargeable Battery Drop-off Box. Place each battery in a separate plastic bag available at box.

Recycling Bins, Compost Bins, Recycling Schedules, and Guidelines available at the Agawam DPW Office. For more information, call 786-0400, ext. 286.

Sunday, June 22nd...

Senior Center Expansion Comm. to host open house

On Sunday, June 22nd, the Senior Center Expansion Committee - a subcommittee of the Friends of the Agawam Senior Center - will be hosting an open house from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the Agawam Senior Center.

This open house will spotlight the many valuable services and functions the Agawam Senior Center provides to the community.

Complimentary refreshments will be served. Please stop in and enjoy the music and free guided tours; watch demonstrations by the Center's various extracurricular activity groups; learn about the many services provided by the Center to seniors; and learn more about the proposed Senior Center expansion plans.

Donations benefiting the Senior Center Expansion project are always appreciated and welcome. Please make all donations payable to "The Friends of the Agawam Senior Center," P.O. Box 238, Agawam, MA 01001.

- ADVERTISER NEWS -

Anniversary celebration planned for Small Business Assistance Center

The Agawam Small Business Assistance Center (ASBAC), which originally opened its doors on January 7, 2002, will be holding an anniversary celebration on June 18th from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. at the Community Shops, 1325 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills. (The rain date will be June 19th.)

The ASBAC, originally created as a satellite office of the Springfield Enterprise Center, has successfully counseled over 90 small businesses and entrepreneurs.

Mayor Richard Cohen said, "I could not be more proud of the success of the Center. It has fulfilled all of my expectations and more. The Center has received the generous support of the Agawam Chamber of Commerce, United Cooperative Bank, WMECO, and the Woronoco Charitable Fund, without whom none of this would be a reality. I am especially pleased to announce that WMECO has agreed to continue its support through a \$5,000 grant."

The Center, which is open Tuesday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, is staffed by volunteers from the Town and receives counseling and training from S.C.O.R.E., the Massachusetts Small Business Development Center, ACCION, USA, and the Western Massachusetts Enterprise Fund.

"The anniversary celebration is intended to recognize the many individuals and organizations which have made this first year a success," said Cindy Ayre, Chairman of the ASBAC Board of Directors.

"The Center is a community effort beginning with our offices, which were donated by Lone Coyote Realty Trust, our funding, and our wonderful volunteers. We invite the entire community to enjoy some refreshments and celebrate a great year."

For more information, please call the ASBAC offices, 786-0172, or the Agawam Planning Office, 786-0400, extension 283.

*For all the hometown news,
you turn our pages each
and every week ... AAN!!!*

Agawam City Council members' phone numbers

Gina M. Letellier,
President

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Agawam, MA 01001
H - 786-6882
W - 786-5300
Fax - 786-7077

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Feeding Hills, MA 01030
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e-mail - robert.young@thehartford.com

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Lowell P. McLane

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H - 786-8065

Joseph Mineo

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W - 858-2845

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cell phone - (860) 883-6229

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W - 568-9822

*Our deadline is each Tuesday at
12:00 noon; however, we appreciate
any articles, press releases, letters,
etc., that can be brought in on
Mondays. Thank you.*

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*Annual Percentage Rate as quoted March 27, 2003. Refinancing for owner-occupied residence only. Minimum loan amount \$50,000. Maximum loan amount \$500,000. Maximum 80% loan to value. Loan to be primary lien. Property insurance required. Appraisal fees to be refunded at closing. 10-year term monthly payment of \$10.85 per thousand borrowed. 15-year term monthly payment of \$8.30 per thousand borrowed. Offer may be rescinded at any time.

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2003 Agawam City Council Committees

Committee on Rules: John Negrucci (Chairman), Jill Simpson, George Bitzas.

Committee on Ordinances: Richard Morassi (Chairman), Dennis Perry, John Negrucci.

Committee on Utilities: Joseph Mineo (Chairman), George Bitzas, John Negrucci.

Committee on Licenses: Jill Simpson (Chairman), George Bitzas, Ruth Carr Bitzas.

Committee on Street Acceptances: Joseph Mineo (Chairman), Jill Simpson, Ruth Carr Bitzas.

Committee on Traffic and Street Safety: Dennis Perry (Chairman), Joseph Mineo, George Bitzas, John Negrucci, Lowell McLane.

Zoning Review Committee: Anthony Bonavita (Chairman), Richard Morassi, Lowell McLane.

Finance Committee: Robert Young (Chairman), Anthony Bonavita, Richard Morassi.

Industrial Relations Committee: John Negrucci (Chairman), Dennis Perry, Anthony Bonavita, Richard Morassi, Ruth Carr Bitzas.

Ad Hoc Committee - Recreation: George Bitzas (Chairman), Jill Simpson, Anthony Bonavita, Joseph Mineo, Lowell McLane.

Ad Hoc Committee - Condominium Relations: George Bitzas (Chairman), Ruth Carr Bitzas, Lowell McLane.

Agawam School Comm. members' phone numbers

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786-3256
RSand8006@aol.com

Republican Town Committee to meet June 14th

The Agawam Republican Town Committee will hold a breakfast meeting on Saturday, June 14th at 8:30 a.m. at L.A.'s Deli, 1811 Main Street, Agawam.

The meeting will include reports from Town Council and State Committee members.

Bill Euliano will report on the progress of the picnic/summer event to be held the last part of June.

Ron Lariviere will update members about the committee's website link.

Guests are welcome, but are requested to make breakfast reservations by calling Rita Moore at 786-9094.

Members will be contacted by the phone committee.

- ADVERTISER NEWS -

FireWise...

Rules of the road for emergency vehicles

by Fire Chief David Pisano

The Agawam Fire Department reminds motorists that the law requires they pull to the right-hand curb to allow emergency vehicles to pass. Failure to do so can cause serious accidents or delays in arriving at the scene of an emergency.

When you hear sirens or see red lights, pull to the right side of the road and stop. If you cannot move right, move in any direction that will allow the emergency vehicle through. Look first before moving. If there is no place to move, sit tight.

Following an emergency vehicle may seem exciting, but, in reality, is dangerous both to the emergency personnel and to yourself. Emergency vehicles often have to stop suddenly, and someone following too close could become involved in an accident and emergency personnel could be injured when attempting to get out of their vehicles to respond to the call.

Please heed the warning posted on the back of most fire engines, which states that vehicles behind them should be at least 50 feet behind them.

If you are a pedestrian and hear sirens, stay on the curb. Do not step into the street, even after the emergency vehicle has passed. There may be more following at a distance.

Keep children close to you. They may try to dart out to see the fire truck or ambulance.

For further information, contact the Agawam Fire Department at 786-2662.

For all the hometown news,
you turn our pages each
and every week ... AAN!!!

Agawam to host Green-Rainbow Party convention

The Town of Agawam Green-Rainbow Party shall host a Hampden County regional convention for Green-Rainbow Party members on Saturday, June 14th. Registration will begin at 11:00 a.m. in the Community Room at the Agawam Public Library.

County regional conventions are convened within the Green-Rainbow Party to select regional representatives to the Green-Rainbow Party of Massachusetts state committee.

To nominate a candidate, be nominated as a candidate, or to vote in this election, one must either be registered as a Green [G], Rainbow Coalition [F], or Green-Rainbow Party member [J], or one must be dues-paying as an unenrolled member.

Two delegates shall be chosen at this convention - one man and one woman. All are welcome to attend.

Following elections, attendees shall inaugurate a Green-Rainbow Party Hampden County regional organization to help facilitate the creation of other locals and maintain a regional Green-Rainbow Party presence in the Greater Springfield/Hampden County region.

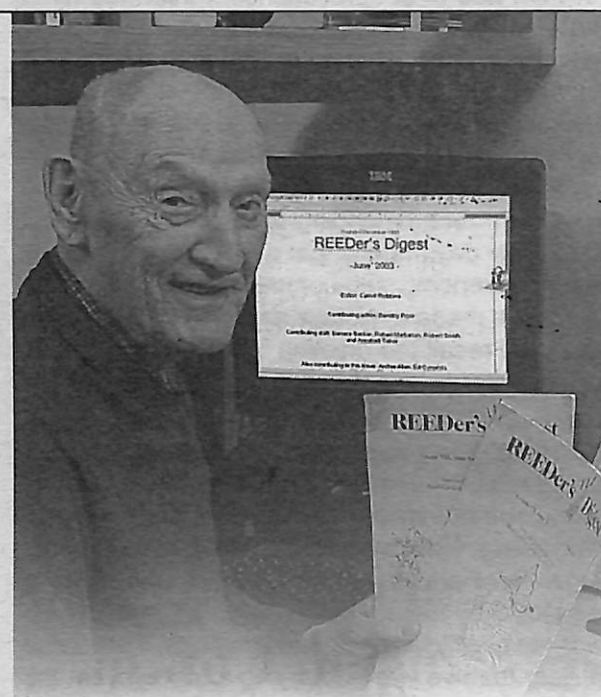
If you visit the Advertiser News' office at 23 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills (above Remillard Insurance), please note that our main entrance is in the back. Thank you.

I Fit-In

'I'm Still Editing'

Carroll Robbins retired as editor of the Springfield Union - News (now Republican) about ten years ago. That concluded an illustrious career in the newspaper business that included stints as city hall reporter, political reporter and columnist, managing editor and editor of the afternoon Springfield Daily News and, finally, of the merged morning Union-News.

Initially reluctant to move from his home in East Forest Park, Carroll has not only found a new home, but a way to keep using the newspaper skills he honed over a half-century in the news business. He's back on familiar territory as editor of REEDer's Digest, Reeds Landing's quarterly newsletter written by and for residents of the community.



Carroll Robbins,
Reeds Landing Resident
Former Editor of the Springfield Union-News

"When I retired from the Springfield Newspapers I never thought I'd be able to use my background in the news business. But here I am.... still editing!"

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Letters To The Editor

It's tough to do business in Agawam

To the Editor:

V & F Auto has provided auto repair service and sold auto parts to our customers at our Springfield Street location since 1988. We have been a good corporate citizen, paying our taxes, improving the appearance of our property and making quarterly donations to the school system.

For many years we have wanted to add a used car sales component to our business. Recently, the property across the street from our current location, the corner of Harding and Springfield Streets, became available for sale. At the same time, the assets of a used car business (Agawam Auto) was up for sale.

I called the building inspector and told him I wanted to buy the assets of Agawam Auto and move the used car business to the Harding Street location. He told me that it would never fly, it would not pass the City Council and a used car license had never been transferred from one location to another. He suggested that I purchase and operate the business at 855 Springfield Street for six months or so and then go back to the City Council and ask for a transfer to Harding Street. It did not make sense to me that we should have to jump through these hoops to achieve the same result. I also did not want to apply for a license transfer in front of the City Council, tell them that I was going to operate at 855 Springfield Street when I had no intention of doing so.

The building inspector seemed to get upset and asked why I had to set precedence. I informed him I was not trying to set a precedence, I just wanted to be up front and honest. I then contacted several members of the City Council. The response was positive. No one could see a problem with transferring the license from one location to another. At a meeting on August 19, 2002, the licensing sub-committee voted 3-0 in favor of recommending the transfer to the full council. A few days later, I got a call from the chairman of the licensing sub-committee telling me that she may have made a mistake and they needed to do research and recall the meeting.

The reason she believed that they might have made a mistake was the Building Department notified her that there was a waiting list for used car licenses. Within the next week or so, we had another meeting where the sub-committee reviewed all the research. At that meeting, we were informed (by a retiring building department employee) that the list was an idea and a policy they have been going by for many years and was never officially put into ordinance. It was also made clear that we were not trying to circumvent the list (of which our name still remains) for the next free license that becomes available, but we were purchasing an existing business that anyone could have negotiated to buy.

The sub-committee reviewed all other concerns and found that their original vote of 3-0 in favor of the recommendation would stand. We then acted on the advice of the sub-committee to get all site plans and approvals for the Harding Street location (which was a substantial investment). The site plan was approved for 21 cars through the Building Department and Planning Board. At this time, the Clerk's Office refused to process the application. After many discussions and several sub-committee meetings later, we were told that the License Sub-Committee would not recommend our application and we were advised to fill out an application to own and operate the business at 855 Springfield Street (the building inspector's original idea).

With our second application, I filed the plot plan for 855 Springfield Street that was on file with the Town of Agawam since 1997, which showed a **proposed garage**. On February 24, 2003, the City Council (which is the licensing authority) held a public hearing on my application to transfer the Class II car license to me at its existing location at 855 Springfield Street.

The members of the City Council discussed the building inspector's recommendation that the property be in compliance with the plot plan on file since 1997.

There was also a discussion about the plot plan showing a **"proposed garage."** At that time, we informed the council we had a garage at 443 Springfield Street and that if building a garage at 855 Springfield Street was going to be a condition of the transfer of the license, then I did not want them to approve my application. The City Council voted 9-1-1 to approve my application for the transfer of the license without adopting the building inspector's recommendation that a garage be built. The City Council, as part of its vote, directed that the old license be turned in and the property was to conform to building code and town zoning ordinances.

After the expiration of the 10-day period for appeal in the statute, I made a payment for the purchase of the said business at 855 Springfield Street and was provided with the original license. We then turned the license into the clerk's office. Several days later, we tried to acquire the new license in our name pursuant to the City Council's order number PH-2003-2 TO-2203-10 and were told we could not have it because the building inspector would not sign off on the license. We are now told that if we don't build a building at 855 Springfield Street (where we don't own the real estate), the building inspector will not sign off on the license that was ordered to us by the licensing authority. It is now June and we are still without our license.

These are just highlights (really lowlights) of what we have gone through this past year. We want the citizens of Agawam to know how difficult it is to do business in this town. We have worked hard to achieve this transfer. It seems that with every effort that we made, another obstacle was put in our way. We also want the citizens of this town to know that if we end up suing the town for this license, it is only after we tried every other course of action.

If anyone wishes to discuss this matter with me or wants more information, please feel free to contact me.

Frank V. Palange, V&F Auto Inc.
443 Springfield Street, Agawam, MA 01001
Parts - 786-9914; Service - 789-2181
Fax - 786-8578
www.vfauto.com

How about minor league baseball in Agawam???

To the Editor:

While I don't necessarily disagree with last week's letter, "Town officials need to do more about empty plaza," I think it's also fair to say that in today's economic climate, it might be easier said than done.

With many long established malls and higher profile shopping centers firmly in place and just a short drive away, the Agawam shopping center seems to have lost the luster it once had as a prime retail location. Unable to attract another anchor department or grocery store chain for several years now, it appears destined to be relegated to, at best, strip mall status, where vagabond outlets come and go and, at worst, what it is now, a ghost shopping center whose time

has passed.

Bearing this in mind and at the risk of being called crazy by some and perhaps vilified by others, I would like to suggest what to some might be a dirty word. Stadium! Yes, as in minor league baseball.

Imagine the current property as is with the bank and all Walnut St. Ext. business left intact, but the old Food Mart complex and former Ames building gone. Now imagine the old Games & Lanes building gone and that property turned into parking. Then picture the footprint of a minor league field with 5,000 to 6,000 seats somewhere in the open parcel with plenty left for stadium parking. The neighborhood, with its smaller retail, commercial, light industry and restaurant flavor, would be a good fit.

Ballpark lighting at night would be no more offensive than shopping areas past. Crowd noise would probably have a very minimal effect on few, if any, residents from that spot. Traffic to and from the game would be routed directly over the bridge to West Springfield and down Main Street to Route 57 and would never disturb Agawam Center to speak of or anywhere else in town to any great degree.

Now, suppose our current administration took a very informal poll among city residents, much like what was recently done in Springfield, to see if such an idea was palatable. If it was, perhaps Agawam could then put a message out across the region that it might be interested in the formation of a corporate alliance among members of the area's business and financial communities to explore ways of privately funding such a project for the benefit of all.

At the same time, make minor league officials aware of what would be happening. See what they think. Seek out their help and advice. And try to bring Springfield's baseball proponents on board with their experience and help. After all, one of the major reasons Springfield could not make it happen was the fact that they really never had and may never have, a place to build it.

However, at the opposite end of the Memorial Ave. corridor from downtown Springfield, Agawam might have what no other area city does. Beneath the old buildings at the Agawam shopping center lies a natural resource that the entire region could enjoy. A stadium site.

It's not oil and it's not gold, but it could be magic!

Doug Cesan
Feeding Hills

Broadhurst's campaign to urge "Healthy Communities"

To the Editor:

As I have been crisscrossing about Town to gather signatures on my nomination papers, some people have taken note of my support for certain educational programs and my prior vocal support of fair contracts for municipal employees. They have asked me, "Will I push for property tax hikes to pay for this 'wish list'? Will I push for cuts in other services?" A very few became upset when it seemed to them that I was being evasive.

My reply has been that the Town of Agawam, unlike

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The Agawam Advertiser News

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LETTERS - from Page 4

several of its neighbors, is very well-situated for smart growth and sustainable development that can expand our tax base; that the Town of Agawam can both save a small fortune and make a small fortune in resource conservation, a fuel-efficient fleet of municipal vehicles, and reclamation and conversion of solid waste and effluent; that I have always been opposed to the raising of regressive taxes and would prefer to both lower property tax rates and shift the differential in every homeowner's favor; that the Town need not solely rely on the state of Massachusetts as a source for grant monies; and (most importantly) that huge hikes in property taxes, together with deep cuts in city services, will eventually become our fate - as it has been the fate of our metropolitan neighbors - if city leaders do not take the initiative to demand that our legislative representatives endorse, support, and fight for common sense tax reform at the state level.

In this time of fiscal crisis, I believe it is imperative for city leaders to support the platform of the Massachusetts Coalition for Healthy Communities.

Municipal leaders, civic activists, union representatives, teachers, firemen, police, parents, and senior citizens in need of services should make for natural allies of the Massachusetts Coalition for Healthy Communities. The preservation of city services, expansion of educational access, improvement of educational outcomes, extension of sewer services, and enhancement of senior services and affordable housing are all popular goals, each in desperate need of increased funding.

The city's capacity to provide all of these while also reducing the property tax burden for homeowners (several of whom now live on fixed incomes) will depend on legislative leaders at last developing the wisdom and foresight to seed these needs.

To seed these needs, they need to know that a rich source of revenue has long been overlooked while they squeeze blood out of stones. Our legislators overlook untapped revenue sources even as they pursue budget priorities that, in the final analysis, will discourage economic growth, prolong our fiscal crisis, and dampen the prospects of an economic recovery.

Promotion of the Massachusetts Coalition for Healthy Communities and its aims shall therefore become a major component of my City Council campaign as I write letters, press releases, and hold forums for voters. Ultimately, this campaign spells tax relief for most residents in not only their payment of income taxes, but in their payment of excise and property taxes.

Ultimately, this campaign is key to the preservation and expansion of educational programs and city services. The Town of Agawam needs a City Council that will urge its legislative representatives to support and fight for these aims - and it is my goal to get as many citizens, civic leaders, and elected leaders involved as possible.

This is not a campaign that we can leave between ourselves, our locals, and a few friends and allies. This is a campaign that we need to bring before City Council meetings, School Committee meetings, Town Hall, and every candidate for municipal office. This is a campaign that we need to promote and write about in local newspapers, and discuss at local meetings of Golden Age Clubs, Senior Centers, Lions Clubs, and Rotary Clubs.

We will find throughout the course of our campaign for this initiative supportive Democrats and supportive Republicans, and we must see to it that town committees for both learn about it, discuss it, and place it on their agendas.

All politics is ultimately local, in my humble opinion. The most willing audience for tax reform shall ultimately be those who want to support and improve municipal services. I plan on promoting this heavily.

Those who hope to learn more regarding the Massachusetts Coalition for Healthy Communities may refer to this website: <http://www.masschc.org/>. MCHC may be reached at P.O. Box 644, Lexington, MA 02420, and by phone - (781) 674-2422. You can e-mail them at info@masschc.org.

Sincerely,

Owen R. Broadhurst

Agawam

thersites2467@hotmail.com

Granger Family Picnic a wonderful family event

To the Editor:

Granger Elementary School held its Annual Family Picnic on June 6th at the Polish American Club. We would like to take this opportunity to thank those who helped make this a wonderful event for the kids.

Many thanks to the Polish American Club for welcoming us each year. The grounds are always beautiful and safe for the kids to play. Thank you to Glenn Chamberland and his staff from Copperline Eatery for the delicious food and beverages. Our DJ, Doug Reed, did an outstanding job keeping kids and adults happy on the dance floor.

Lastly, thanks to H.P. Hood for your generous donation of ice cream for our sundaes. A great time was had by all that attended. We hope to see everyone again next year.

Sincerely,

Kim O'Brien & Paula Macauley,

Co-chairpersons

Granger Family Picnic Committee

Mayor Cohen congratulates Agawam High's Class of 2003

To the Editor:

I wish to congratulate the Agawam High School Class of 2003 upon their graduation on June 8, 2003.

The administration, faculty, staff, band and chorus outdid themselves in providing a most dignified ceremony that all the graduates and their families will always remember. What a wonderful time had by everyone who took part in the graduation ceremony.

I wish all the graduates and their families best wishes and success now and in the future. Congratulations!

Sincerely,

Richard A. Cohen, Mayor

Granger PTO appreciates support of spring fundraiser

To the Editor:

The Granger School PTO would like to express heartfelt thanks to the many wonderful local and neighboring businesses which generously donated to the 2003 Spring Basket Fundraiser: Movie Mart, Agawam Family Cinema, Geissler's, Ye Olde Butcher Shop, The Crest Room, V&F Auto, Staples, Crystal's, Hair Impressions, Partner's Restaurant, Karen's Cafe Express, The Cutting Edge, End Results, Eclipse Tanning, Take 5 Restaurant, J.J.'s Soft Serve, Country Flowers (and Gifts), Surprise Cards (and

Gifts), Cecchi Farms, and UniSource, Inc. (Windsor, CT). It is through their generosity that the fundraiser was a success.

The PTO would also like to thank our principal, Mrs. Phyllis Lewis, for the constant support, participation, and enthusiasm that she brings to all of our endeavors.

Finally, we would like to thank the families of Granger School. As with all of the Agawam schools, the members of our community at Granger School make this a very special place.

Granger School PTO

Agawam students grateful for Jr. High Concert Band

To the Editor:

Sometimes it seems as though happy endings happen only in the movies. The members of the Agawam Junior High School Concert Band beg to differ. This year on our annual trip to the Great East Festival (located in Nashua, New Hampshire), the band received a platinum medal.

As Scott Thomson, our very talented musical director, says, "Let's look at this in light of a credit card. We have our 'bronze' for people who aren't in the best financial state. We have the 'silver' for ordinary Joe Schmoe like myself. We have the 'gold,' which is for the great people who are pretty well off. Then we have the 'platinum,' and that is reserved for the best of the best." By receiving our platinum, we broke a long-standing tradition of gold medals eight years in a row. What better way to break a chain of gold medals.

Now, we beg to differ yet again. Mr. Scott Thomson is not an ordinary, run-of-the-mill "Joe Schmoe." Mr. Thomson is a great musician with a vibe that's hard to miss and a love of music that nobody in our eighth grade (class of 2007) will ever forget. He has kept the love of music alive throughout our brief two years with him, and we will always remember his sense of humor.

On behalf of the eighth-grade class, we'd like to thank you, Mr. Thomson, for everything you have done for us. You have prepared us and given us the opportunity to compete. That opportunity will help us in future performances. You truly are a one-in-a-million person. You are greatly appreciated and will be greatly missed.

Class of 2007, we're the best! We play with passion and energy, and that's what got us our platinum. No matter where your life brings you, you will always have these fond memories of our winning eighth-grade band season. Thank you, everyone, for contributing your time to such a worthy activity.

Class of 2008, thank you for sticking with us and working so hard to catch up to the level of the eighth-grade members of the band. You are all wonderful musicians. Keep the music alive for the entering seventh-grade class. You have proven a lot to us in the past year, and we anticipate your arrival at the High School.

Our band is a wonderful thing. We have a passion for music that is hard to find. We appreciate each other, the music we play, and our band director. We are grateful to have such an extraordinary music program, and we wanted the town to realize that.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Avondo, Caitlyn David,

and Myungsun Ro

(Grade eight members of the

Agawam Junior High School Concert Band)

SEE LETTERS - Page 6

What's your current free checking really free of?

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Dawn Polay,
Fleet customer



- Obituaries -

JAMES P. GRADY, SR.

James P. Grady, Sr., 85, a lifelong resident of Agawam, died recently at his home. Born on January 2, 1918 to the late Daniel & Melvina (Jasmin) Grady, he was a graduate of Agawam High School in 1936. He served his country in WWII as a sergeant in the United States Army with the 386th Infantry Regiment, 97th Division, and earned the Bronze Star, the Good Conduct Medal, the Victory Medal, the European-African-Middle Eastern Theater Campaign Ribbon, the Asiatic-Pacific Theater Campaign Ribbon, and the American Theater Campaign Ribbon.

Before his retirement, he worked for Loen and Mansfield, Buxton, and Hayden Wayside Furniture Company. He served as an auxiliary police officer in Agawam for 15 years, and was a communicant of All Saints Parish (St. Theresa's Church) in Agawam.

He leaves his wife of 62 years, Georgianna M. (Styner) Grady; his children, James P. Grady, Jr. and his wife, Marilyn, of Southwick, Michael Grady and Terry Rovelli of Mystic, CT and West Palm Beach, FL, and Maureen Schindler of Agawam; his brother, Daniel Grady, Jr. and his wife, Rose, of West Springfield; eight grandchildren, Kerry, Kathleen, Peter, Heather, Erinn, Nathan, Michael, and Sean; two great-grandchildren, Cody and Miranda; a niece; and several nephews.

He was predeceased by two brothers, R. Kenneth Grady and Robert Grady.

The funeral was held at the Toomey-O'Brien Funeral Home of West Springfield and All Saints Parish (St. Theresa's Church), with burial in the Massachusetts Veterans' Memorial Cemetery in Agawam. Donations may be made to the Visiting Nurse and Hospice of Western New England, P.O. Box 9058, Springfield, MA 01102-9058, or to the American Diabetes Association, 1 Bromfield St., 5th Floor, Boston, MA 02108.

RITA D. NOONAN

Rita D. (Goyette) Noonan, 72, died recently at her Springfield residence. Born in Agawam on February 3, 1931, she was the daughter of the late Melvin & Hermine (Crepeau) Goyette. She was raised in Agawam, graduated from Agawam High School in 1949, and went on to receive a nursing degree from the Mercy Hospital School of Nursing. She was a registered nurse in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and employed by Mercy Hospital for 50 years. Additionally, she was a communicant of Holy Cross Church.

She was predeceased by her former husband, William J. Noonan, in 1998; two brothers, Clovis and Edward Goyette; and a sister, Gertrude Loncto.

She is survived by her five children, William J. Noonan, Jr., and his wife, Maryann, Patricia D. Noonan-Curran, Dr. Michael P. Noonan, Mary F. Sawyer and her husband, Harry, all of Springfield, and Maureen A. Cartier and her husband, Richard, of Palmer; her siblings, Dorothy Haffler of Agawam, Alfred Goyette of Agawam, Theresa DeGrandpre of Springfield, Evelyn Narcovich of Warwick, RI, and

Donald Goyette of Agawam; and nine grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Sampson's Chapel of the Acres Funeral Home and Holy Cross Church (both in Springfield), with burial to take place at the convenience of the family. Contributions may be made to the Center for Sight at Mercy Medical Center, c/o Development Office - Sisters of Providence Health Care System, P.O. Box 9012, Springfield, MA 01102-9012.

CHARLES J. PATNODE

Charles J. Patnode, 85, of 18 Briar Hill Rd., Feeding Hills, died recently in a local nursing home. He was born and raised in Springfield, and had lived in Feeding Hills since 1966. He was a self-employed woodworker and served in the Army during WWII.

He leaves his wife, Sarah (Colquhoun) Patnode; a daughter, Janette Godding and her husband, Arthur D., of Longmeadow; a son, Charles J. Patnode, Jr. of Feeding Hills; four sisters, Lucille Girard and Dorothy Rueli of Springfield, Ruth Greenlee of Hartford, CT, and Pat Easton of North Carolina; and two grandchildren, Sara and Adam Godding.

The funeral was held at the Agawam Curran-Jones Funeral Home.

SALLY A. RAMAH

Sally A. Ramah, 93, of 297 Cooper St., Agawam, died on Friday, June 6th. Born in Springfield, she was the daughter of Louis & Yesmine (Diab) Ramah. She had lived in Agawam for 60 years. She was a graduate of Kree Institute of Electrolysis in New York City. Before her retirement, she worked as a certified registered electrolysis for the Albert Steiger Beauty Salon.

She leaves a sister, Amelia C. Ramah of Agawam, with whom she lived; two brothers, Victor P. Ramah of Agawam and Fred J. Ramah of Vermont; and many nieces and nephews.

The funeral was held at the Agawam Curran-Jones Funeral Home and St. Anthony Maronite Church, with burial in St. Michael's Cemetery. Memorial donations may be made to the church at 375 Island Pond Rd., Springfield, MA 01118.

WANDA G. SAGAN

Wanda G. (Palasz) Sagan, 76, of 90 South Park Terrace, Agawam, died recently at Mercy Medical Center. She was a retired seamstress for various area companies, including Chicopee Undergarment, Buxton, and Chicopee Bridal. She was also a cafeteria worker at Agawam High School. Born in Scranton, Pennsylvania on October 10, 1926, she graduated from Taylor High School. She lived in Agawam since 1954 and was a communicant of St. John the Evangelist Church in Agawam Center.

Her husband, Edward C. Sagan, predeceased her in August of 1993. She was also predeceased by a brother, Walter Palasz.

She is survived by a son, Richard J. Sagan of North Oxford; a daughter, Janice A. Sagan, of Agawam; a sister, Caroline Madej of Enfield; three grandchildren, Amy Via, Michael Sagan, and Adam Sagan; and four great-grandchildren, Ryan, Blake, Benjamin, and

Emily Via.

The funeral was held at the Colonial Forastiere Funeral Home of Agawam and St. John the Evangelist Church, with burial in Agawam Center Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the Agawam Fire Dept. Ambulance Fund, 1200 Springfield St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030.

ANN M. TANGREDI

Ann M. (Curto) Tangredi, 85, of 60 Rosewood Lane, Southwick, died recently at Noble Hospital in Westfield. Born and educated in Springfield, she was a graduate of the High School of Commerce in that city. A resident of Southwick since 1975, she had lived in Agawam prior to moving to Southwick. She was a retired 25-year employee of Blake's Department Store in Springfield. She was a communicant of Our Lady of the Lake Church in Southwick.

She leaves two daughters, Ann Drinkwater of Southwick, and Susan Pelley and her husband, Norman, of Feeding Hills; a sister, Rosemary Robinson and her husband, Cecil, of Agawam; a brother-in-law, Vincent Stenta of Springfield; her grandchildren, Kevin Wilson, Lisa Wilson-Bernardara and her husband, Michael, Jay Pelley and his wife, Evelyn, Kim Pollack and her husband, Jon, and Michael Pelley and his wife, Jessica; three great-grandchildren; and two nephews.

She was predeceased by her husband, Anthony N. Tangredi, on March 18, 1981.

The funeral was held at the Southwick Forastiere Funeral Home and Our Lady of the Lake Church, with burial in St. Michael's Cemetery in Springfield. Contributions may be made to Our Lady of the Lake Church, Sheep Pasture Road, Southwick, MA 01077.

MARY E. TEECE

Mary E. (Hamilton) Teece, 79, died recently at Noble Hospital in Westfield. Born in Haverhill, Massachusetts on January 4, 1924, she was the daughter of the late Edward T. & Margaret T. (Bresnahan) Hamilton. She worked for over 20 years at Thrifty Cosmetics and for the Cancer Foundation (aiding in telethons). She was a past communicant of Our Lady of the Lake Church in Southwick. She will be remembered for her outgoing personality and for her vast collection of hats. Her attention to detail was equalled only by her love of shopping.

She leaves her husband of 58 years, Robert Teece of Southwick; a son, Douglas and his wife, Susan Teece, of Southwick; two daughters, Cheryl Bruno and her husband, former Agawam Superintendent of Schools James Bruno, of Southwick, and Mary Kimball of Kennebunk Port, Maine; a goddaughter, Jean Bracci of Agawam; seven grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

The funeral was held at Our Lady of the Lake Church, with burial in the Massachusetts Veterans' Memorial Cemetery in Agawam. The Southwick Forastiere Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements. Donations may be made to the Arthritis Foundation, 29 Crafts Street, Newton, MA 02158.

LETTERS - from Page 5

Eagle Scout appreciates help with replacing flags

To the Editor:

I would like to extend both my thanks and appreciation to Mr. George Bitzas and the Beautification Committee for their donation, which enabled me to replace the six New England State Flags that fly in front of our Town Hall. I erected the flagpoles and the six flags approximately two years ago, as my Eagle Scout Project in a cooperative endeavor with Mayor Cohen.

As time has passed, the original set of flags have become weathered and torn. Therefore, I found a need to replace the flags. Upon trying to restring the poles myself, I found that the old ropes were fragile

and could not easily be re-threaded. Again, I needed help and thanks to Mr. Tony Albro and his crew of workers and their equipment, they were able to restring the flagpoles for me. As Flag Day, June 14th is just around the corner, I hope all will enjoy these new flags.

I have also noticed along with the replacement of the flags that the Town Hall is being newly painted. What a great job our town employees are doing. Our Town Hall is now more noticeable and appealing to individuals passing by, a place all townspeople can be truly proud of.

In my opinion, the beautification efforts of Mr. Bitzas and Mayor Cohen have truly helped to make Agawam a proud center of community excellence.

I thank all of you for your support.

Joe Fortunato
Eagle Scout

*Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon; however, we appreciate any articles, press releases, letters, etc., that can be brought in on Mondays.
Thank you for your cooperation in this matter ... ADVERTISER NEWS!!!*

LEGAL NOTICE

APPROVED ZONE CHANGE CITY OF AGAWAM

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND AND THREE
OWNER: Elk Associates Funding Corporation
Parcel "A" Description

For Zone Change from Agriculture to
Business A

Beginning at the northwesterly corner of Parcel "A," said point being located S72-46-45E, a distance of 200.23 feet from the easterly sideline of Suffield Street, thence running S72-46-45E for a distance of 274.26 feet to a point, thence running S5-35-00W for a distance of 655.50 feet to a point, thence running N55-21-50W for a distance of 451.34 feet to a point, thence running N19-57-00E for a distance of 507.52 feet to the point of beginning. Parcel "A" is shown on a plan entitled "Plan for Proposed Zone Change" Dated: Mar. 18, 2003. Adopted by the Agawam City Council on Monday, June 2, 2003

Ursula Retzler
Clerk of the Council

Published: June 12, 2003

★ ★ ★ Campaign 2003...

Mayoral candidate Anthony Bonavita proposes marketing program

Mayoral candidate and City Councilor Anthony C. Bonavita recently discussed the need to attract new and diverse businesses to Agawam to further enhance our tax base.

Bonavita stated, "Everyone knows we need a strong business base in our community for tax revenues and to provide services to our citizens. Citizens in my one-on-one discussions have offered me some methods for consideration:

1. To plan for and to make a reality a second industrial park to build up our tax base, which must be carefully located.

2. To separate the positions of Town Planner and Community Development Director into two separate positions. In this way, the Community Development Director's primary concerns will be developing and attracting new business to Agawam.

I believe that such suggestions have merit. I can say now that I will support the Small Business Assistance Center program and look for other ways to assist it. Also, I will pursue the feasibility of developing a new industrial park and of the creation of a separate position of Community Development Director.

I believe we need to create an "Agawam Needs You" marketing program to attract new business ventures to fill up our empty store fronts and to let businesses know what Agawam has to offer as a community. We need to be innovative, open-minded, and enthusiastic about our community. Such a program will be made up of many components, which must be coordinated to be successful.

We cannot and should not settle for complacency or mediocrity. An "Agawam Needs You" program will spotlight and promote Agawam to a brighter future, a future where additional revenues can be generated to fund the worthy endeavors that our citizens need and support.

Consultation with existing businesses and the Chamber of Commerce should be an integral part when formulating and implementing the program.

We should also support in every way possible the existing Small Business Assistance Center program, which is just celebrating its first-year anniversary.

Bonavita, 50 years-old, is an attorney with offices at 101 State Street, Springfield and has been practicing law for over 25 years.

Councilor Bonavita is serving his second two-year term on the City Council. Presently, he serves on several council subcommittees, as chair of Finance, as a member of the School Budget, Zoning Review, Recreation and Industrial Relations. In the past, he also served as chair of the Rules, chair of the Budget I, and chair of the Zoning Review.

John O'Brien of Feeding Hills is serving as chairperson and Adele Bonavita is serving as treasurer of the Committee to Elect Anthony C. Bonavita Mayor of Agawam.

Bonavita resides at 683 Cooper Street with his wife, Adele, and their two children, Carlo and Franca. Both children graduated from Agawam High School and college.

Cohen Committee to host hamburger & hot dog roast

The Richard A. Cohen Committee invites you to join together with your family, friends, and neighbors in kicking off the summer season with the first of our series of 2003 Family Friends and Neighbors events.

Take an evening to enjoy a fun hometown cookout and share the beautiful summer weather and the company of neighbors and friends at a HAMBURG and HOT DOG ROAST, from 5:00-7:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 19th at the Polish American Club, Southwick Street, Feeding Hills.

Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$5 for seniors and children under 12.

Want to keep up on all the latest news in Agawam and Feeding Hills? Then be sure to subscribe to The Agawam Advertiser News! A one-year subscription costs only \$26, so mail your check today to "The Advertiser News," P.O. Box 263, Feeding Hills, MA 01030.

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM BOARD OF APPEALS

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing at the Library Conference Room, Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper Street, Agawam, MA, on Monday, June 23, 2003, at 6:30 P.M. for all parties interested in the appeal of Sprint Spectrum, L.P., which is seeking a Special Permit in accordance with Sections 180-90 through 180-103 of the Zoning Ordinances, which would allow for the installation of wireless communication antennas and equipment on an existing power stanchion at the premises identified as 198 Springfield Street.

Doreen Prouty
Chairperson

Published: June 12, 2003

Best local news ... AGAWAM ADVERTISER NEWS!!!

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Joseph D. Curran
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Melconian announces open spaces at N.E. colleges for fall term

More than two-thirds of area colleges still accepting freshman applications

Senator Linda J. Melconian is pleased to announce that more than 150 New England colleges still have open spaces for the fall 2003 term for freshman and transfer applicants. She encourages all graduating seniors and prospective college students who have not made college plans to apply as soon as possible.

According to the New England Board of Higher Education, 151 colleges and universities in the New England area, including 91 four-year colleges and 60 two-year colleges, are still considering freshman and transfer applications for the fall 2003 term. Seventy-five percent of the colleges with openings have also indicated that financial aid may be available for qualified applicants.

"A college education can be one of the most valuable and rewarding experiences of a person's life," Senator Melconian said. "A college education increases your earning potential and teaches you to think analytically. I strongly encourage those who are considering college to take advantage of this great opportunity."

The New England Board of Higher Education publishes a student vacancy survey every year as a public service to New England college-bound residents. The results of this study have been sent to guidance counselors throughout the region and to every public library.

To find out more about the schools still accepting applications for the fall 2003 term, please visit www.nebhe.org/03vacancy.html or call (617) 357-9620.

Regular Council meeting agenda for Monday, June 16th

Agawam Middle School - 7:30 P.M.

1. Citizen's Speak Time
2. Roll Call
3. Moment of Silence and the Pledge of Allegiance
4. Minutes - Regular Council Meeting of 6/2/03
5. Declaration from Council President
6. Presentation of Petitions, Memorials & Remonstrances

(a) Resolutions

1. TR-2003-18- A Resolution Approving the Appropriation of \$900,000 from the Stabilization Fund for use in the FY2004 Annual Operating Budget to Reduce the Tax Burden (Mayor)(Tabled on 6/2/03).

2. TR-2003-22- A Resolution Adopting the Fiscal Year 2004-2008 Capital Improvement Program (Mayor)(Ref. to Finance comm. on 6/2/03).

7. Report from Council Committees

None.

8. Elections

None.

9. Public Hearings

(a)

1. PH-2003-6-(TR-2003-17)- A Resolution Adopting the FY2004 Annual Operating Budget for the Town of Agawam (Conduct Public Hearing).

10. Old Business

(a)

1. To-2003-23- Voucher List (\$134.67).

If you visit the Advertiser News' office at 23 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills (above Remillard Insurance), please note that our main entrance is in the back. Thank you...

Sheriff Ashe wins national "Points of Light" Award

The Hampden County Sheriff's Department was one of two non-profits in the nation awarded a 2003 Points of Light Foundation National Family Volunteer Award on June 10th in Baltimore, Maryland.

The Sheriff's Department received this award for the Mother/Child Connection program, a family literacy program begun by Sheriff Michael J. Ashe, Jr. in 1993 and coordinated by the department's education program and women's unit.

Saturday mornings at the Hampden County Correctional Center are designated as a special time for mother/child visits, at which mothers and children read a book, and then complete a project related to the book. Thus, the Mother/Child Connection Program provides structured quality visiting time supervised by trained staff; encourages women to learn and practice healthy parenting skills; and encourages literacy skills for all.

In addition, the program models reading aloud to mothers; models simple, low cost learning activities; uses motivational activities to encourage excitement and involvement in reading and learning; exposes families to local community resources; and provides a structured visit for families to strengthen bonds stressed by the anxiety caused by separation.

The ultimate goal is to help families develop healthy behaviors and for mothers to avoid re-offense in the future. Approximately 20 volunteers help out by transporting the children to visits; being in attendance during visits; donating materials; and organizing literacy events.

The Point of Light Foundation is a non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to engaging more people more effectively in volunteer community service to help solve serious social problems.

The Hampden County Sheriff's Department's partners in the community in the Mother/Child Connection Family Literacy Program include the Women's Fund of Western Massachusetts; Reading Is Fundamental Incorporated; the Springfield Library and Museum Association's Educational Outreach Programs; The Springfield Forest Park Zoo "Zoo on the Go" Program; the Springfield Symphony Orchestra Musical Petting Zoo Program; Staples Incorporated; Coca-Cola Incorporated; and Tom McCabe, storyteller.

For photo coverage in The AAN, call 786-7747 or 786-8137; however, please give us at least 72 hours' notice prior to your event. Thank you...

Veterans' Corner...

Remembering

by Edward A. Kellogg

Director/Agent - 786-0400, Ext. 236/237

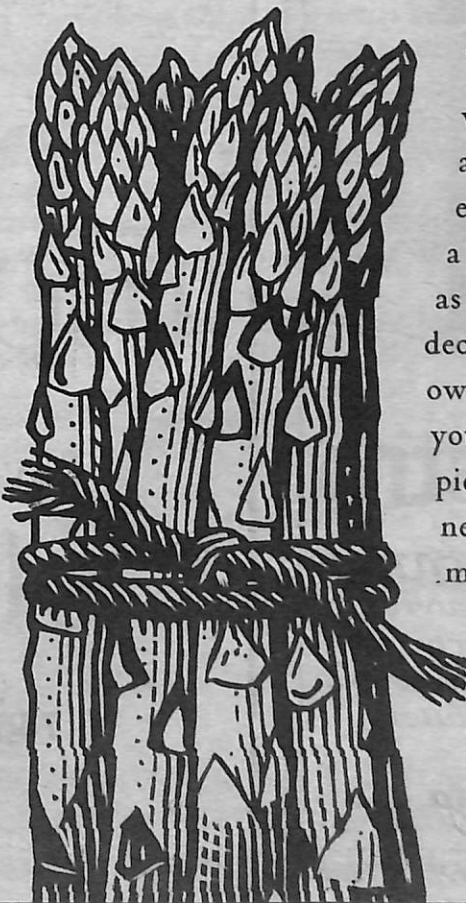
The parade may have been washed out, but the spirit could not be taken away from the veterans and their families that braved the weather on the green. Remembering is what Memorial Day is for. It is a time to remember what unites us as one America.

Despite the rain, there were about 150 people in attendance with their umbrellas. It was a tough choice to make, but when it comes to the parade, the buck stops here. All in all, we recognize that the mortar holding our society together is mixed with the blood and tears of those who fought and died in battle. Our admiration and our appreciation goes out for our recently-retired troops and all our veterans, past and present.

It was an honor to have some of the troops from the 103/104 Barnes and Connecticut. We also had the honor of having ILT Dom DiTomaso, who had returned from Afghanistan not long ago. Brandon Donovan, who came to his first official outing as a U.S. Marine right out of boot camp, raised the flag on the green with real combat vets. Great job done by all. THANK YOU.

Many thanks go out to the Police Department, Fire Department, DPW, and UNICO for all the coffee and donuts; Tony Albro and crew; American Legion Post 185; American Legion Auxiliary; American Legion Color Guard; Veterans' Council; Jack Kunasek, who is always there with the "BULL HORN"; Jack Conroy and all the troops from the LIONS Club, who worked hard on the Street of Flags; Southworth Paper Co., for allowing us to use their parking lot; Chris Sanchez, who ends up doing most of the behind-the-scenes leg work; and the LADY that puts up with me every day in the office, Dianne Moreau; and special thanks to Sacred Heart Church's Boy Scout Troop 75; Brian Athas, who was working on an Eagle Scout Project, who planned all the work done on the Veterans' Green. He did this under the direction of his parents, Ken and Darlene Athas and Assistant Scout Master Steve Tesny. Brian was assisted by other members of the Troop, including Nicholas DeBarge, Corey Fennyery, and Robert LaCombe. THANK YOU, ALL for a job well done. Thanks to all those I may have missed.

June 14, 2003 is FLAG DAY. There are two events going on in town that day - a Flag Day Concert at the High School at 7:00 p.m., and at 3:00 p.m. Six Flags will kick off a "MILITARY APPRECIATION DAY" with Lee Greenwood in concert. Watch the news for more to come on these events. See you there ... GOD BLESS AMERICA.



There's nothing more frustrating than walking into the stand for some native "grass" and seeing that big aluminum asparagus pan—empty! We feel your pain, but trying to find a steady supply of asparagus has been nearly as big a job as growing it—which is what we decided to do—so last weekend we planted our own field of asparagus. We know that won't help you this year, but in years to come, once we start picking, we promise you the asparagus pan will never be empty. And if there's anything at the market we may even have some this weekend.

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Families

Agawam AFS seeking host families for exchange students

If there is room in your heart and home for a teenager from a foreign land, then the Agawam Chapter of American Intercultural Programs (AFS) may be just for you and your family.

AFS International is the largest student-teacher exchange organization in the world. The Agawam Chapter of AFS has been bringing foreign teenage students into the community as seniors at Agawam High School and placing them with families in our community since 1974.

For the current 2002-2003 school year, Agawam AFS is hosting students from Norway and Germany. Both will receive their diplomas with Agawam High's graduating class of 2003 on Sunday, June 8th, at Springfield Symphony Hall.

This is a life-long dream for these students to come and study at American high schools and live with American host families.

Agawam AFS has a long and distinguished history of providing strong local support to its host families through the volunteer community chapter, as well as support and cooperation from the Agawam School Committee, Agawam School Department, administration and teaching staff at Agawam High School, and a large and well-organized student AFS club.

At Agawam High, Agawam AFS is represented by faculty member Mary Ellen Bruce, a member of the Foreign Language Department who serves as advisor and as a mentor to the AFS students attending the school. She is also advisor to the school's AFS student club.

AFS International provides medical and liability insurance, and the Agawam Chapter provides assistance to the families for a variety of school-related expenses.

Homes are being sought for students (males and females) from several European countries, as well as from South America and Latin America.

If you think you may be interested in being a part of this successful and rewarding program as a host family, call Mary Ellen Bruce at Agawam High School, 821-0531, weekdays; Lee Lacienski, the community chapter's student-family liaison, 786-3877; Karen Asta-Ferrero, vice-president, 786-3048; or Ric Sardella, chapter president, 789-2005.

Sr. Ctr. sponsors successful golf tournament...



THE AGAWAM MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE was the site of the recent fundraising tournament sponsored by the Agawam Senior Center. There was a great turnout for this event, and dozens of gifts were donated and raffled off. Consequently, a good day was had by all on and off the course. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.

Agawam St. Patrick's Committee to meet Thurs., June 19th

The Agawam St. Patrick's Committee will hold a meeting on Thursday, June 19th at 7:00 p.m. in the meeting room of the lower Church at St. John the Evangelist, 833 Main St., Agawam.

William Pfau, president, announced that the focus of this meeting will be the development of programs for the coming year.

New members are welcome and are encouraged to join now at the beginning of the fiscal year.

Agawam High School's Class of 1963 plans reunion

The Agawam High School Class of 1963 will hold its 40th reunion on August 17th at the Polish American Club in Feeding Hills.

The following classmates need to be found: Ray Bruno, Nancy Fay, William Foakes, Lynn Gamelli, Ann Graziano, Marilyn Marquiss, Andy Morris, Patricia Murphy, Jim and Joe O'Connor, Jacqueline Palen, Susan Randby, Phyllis Sharkus, Roger Waite, and Mary Wells.

Please call Don Charest at 786-9558 with any information.

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Rotary donates to worthwhile causes...



AT ITS MAY 28TH MEETING at Olive Oil's in Agawam, the Agawam Rotary Club presented a donation to the Captain Leonard House. From left: Chris Sparks, Rotary Board of Directors; Richard Bellico, vice-president of the trustees of the Captain Leonard House; Linda Northup-Vitro, past president of the Agawam Rotary; and Alson K. Canary, former member of the Rotary Board of Directors. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.



JOHN SCHULER, SR. (left) and Attorney Alan Ferrigno (right), members of the Agawam Rotary Board of Directors, are pictured with Major Glenn Avery, commanding officer of the Springfield Salvation Army. Major Avery accepted a donation from the Agawam Rotary on behalf of the Salvation Army's campership program for underprivileged children. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.

Agawam Parks & Rec Department to host October trip to Salem

The Agawam Parks & Recreation Dept. will host "Bewitching Salem" on Saturday, October 4th. Your bewitching experience will begin at the Salem Witch Museum. Follow the history of witches, witchcraft, and witch hunts through the ages.

The main presentation is an overview of the events of the Salem Witch Trials of 1692.

Witches - Evolving Perceptions is an provocative exhibit which presents the ancient pagan wise woman, the stereotypical witch, modern witchcraft, and the phenomenon of witch hunts. More witches in the *Salem Wax Museum*. See and hear this multi-sensory presentation amidst London-made wax figures that make history come to life. Feel the terror of the Salem Witch Trials of 1692 and re-live the daring exploits of seafarers on the high seas. You'll touch history as never before in the Gravestone Rubbing Station, dungeon, Trial Scene, and much more.

Enter *The Salem Witch Village* and take a journey back in time to discover both the myths and facts surrounding the subject of Witchcraft. You will be confronted with the grim realities of medieval hysteria, superstition, and torture. Learn the truths behind the legends and traditions, then define for yourself what being a "Witch" really means. Stroll through *Salem 1630 Pioneer Village*, a recreated 17th century village and discover what Salem was like for its first European settlers. Experience the sights, sounds, and smells of the earliest days of Salem at New England's oldest Living History Museum. Herb gardens, livestock, and craft and cooking demonstrations are presented daily.

The cost is \$55 for adults and \$50 for children under 18 and includes a 47 person coach, driver tip, and all admissions. The bus will depart from Agawam High School at 8:00 a.m. and will return at 6:30 p.m. PAYMENT IS DUE ON OR BEFORE FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5th. Make your check payable to the Town of Agawam.

For reservations, call 821-0513.

Our classified ads cost just \$15 per week for 30 words or less. However, we DO NOT take them over the telephone. Please bring them to our office at 23 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills Center (above Remillard Insurance Agency), or mail them (along with payment) to P.O. Box 263, Feeding Hills, MA 01030.

Alan L. Ferrigno

Attorney at Law

546 Springfield Street
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Organic and natural

Question: What is the difference between organic and natural?

Answer: Organic is having either animal or vegetable life while natural refers to a product that is only minimally processed and contains no artificial ingredients or added color.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has regulated the use of the word "organic" on food items. As of October 21, 2002, the new law states that all organic products must include the phrase "Certified organic by ..." and list the name of the qualifying agent (one that's pre-approved by the USDA). Items labeled *100 percent organic* contain 100 percent certified organic ingredients.

To be certified, the ingredients must get an annual on-site inspection at the farm where the items grow to make sure that the former is not using prohibited materials like pesticides. An organic designation means that at least 95 percent or more (by weight) of organic ingredients are used. If an item uses the *made with organic ingredients* designation, it must contain at least 70 percent organic ingredients. (Items with 71 percent ingredients or more will be able to use the USDA organic seal.) You may also see items labeled with the phrase *some organic ingredients*, which means that organic ingredients make up 70 percent or less of the item.

The USDA has not regulated the use of the term "natural."

Thought for a smile: a good, hearty belly laugh. and remember ... *Beauty is our Business!*

Italian Women to meet June 16th

The June Scholarship meeting of the Italian Women's Club will be held on Monday, June 16th at The Delaney House, 1 Country Club Rd., Holyoke, MA 01040.

Membership is open to all Italian women, either born or married to an Italian. Dinner will be served promptly at 6:30 p.m.

This month's hostesses are Mrs. Pat Camerota and Mrs. Dianne Dellatoree-Stevens. For information on this meeting, please call 567-8313 or 567-8309.

For information on the IWC, write to Barbara Murray, c/o IWC, P.O. Box 5621, Springfield, MA 01101.

OUR ANNUAL "GRADUATION ISSUE" will be published on Thursday, June 19th. The deadline for ALL college announcements, scholarship news, photos, etc., is Monday, June 16th, at 12:00 noon.

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Republican Town Committee to hold annual picnic

The Agawam Republican Town Committee will host their annual picnic on Sunday, June 22nd starting at 1:00 p.m. at the Perry Lane Park Pavilion off of Suffield Street, Route 75, Perry Lane, Agawam.

Donations are \$8 per person. Tickets are available from committee members or by contacting Mark McCormick at 786-9495. William Euliano is serving as chairman of this year's event and is assisted by members of the Agawam Republican Town Committee.

The picnic will be held rain or shine.

Legion Post 185 to host dinner

The Agawam American Legion Post 185 will be hosting a meatloaf dinner on June 17th from 5:00-7:00 p.m. at the Post home at 478 Springfield Street, Agawam.

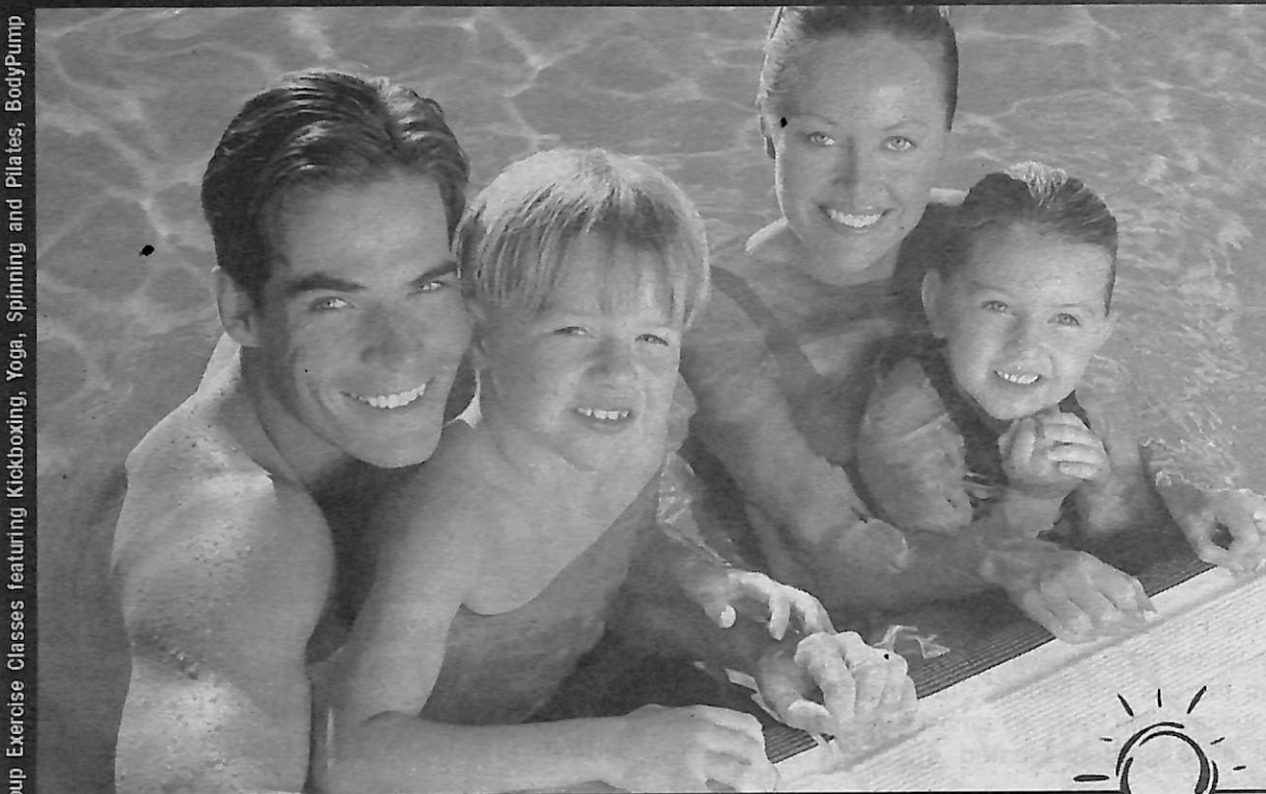
The menu will include meatloaf, potatoes, vegetables, salad, rolls and butter, dessert, and coffee.

The donation is \$7, and \$5.50 for seniors and children under 10 years of age.

For more information, contact Bill Quesnel at 532-9527 or the Tina at Post, 786-4806.

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Golden Age Club Chap. II to host Radio City Music Hall trip

The Golden Age Club, Chapter II of Agawam will host a Radio City Music Hall Christmas Spectacular trip on Wednesday, December 10th. The bus will depart Sacred Heart Church in Feeding Hills at 8:00 a.m. and will return to Agawam at approximately 9:00 p.m.

Come relax in your Orchestra/First Mezzanine seat for America's favorite holiday tradition! The Radio City Christmas Spectacular, starring the world-famous Rockettes, returns for its 70th season at Radio City Music Hall. Experience such show-stopping scenes as the "Parade of the Wooden Soldiers," the majestic "Living Nativity," as well as Santa's return in the exciting 3-D sleigh ride.

Enjoy a full-course luncheon before the show at Jennifer's Restaurant in New York City. The menu will include salad, choice of penne with basil & tomato, medallions of beef, chicken marsala, or grilled salmon, potato, vegetable, dessert, and coffee.

Cost is \$112 per person (based on 40 passengers). A \$50 deposit is due by July 1st.

For more information, call Art Usher at 786-3567.

The Friends of Grandmothers' Garden to host tour

The Friends of Grandmothers' Garden will hold its annual tour on June 28th and June 29th. All proceeds from the tour will benefit Grandmothers' Garden at Chauncey Allen Park, an almost fully renovated, colonial style garden located on Smith Avenue in Westfield.

This year's theme, "The Art of Gardening," will feature local artists nestled amongst the gardens on the tour capturing the uniquely styled gardens. The tour will feature eight local gardens in the Westfield area. Each garden has original features, offering attendees a true sample of the different types of local gardens in bloom this time of year.

Please note that three of the gardens on the tour are in Feeding Hills and the remainder are in Westfield and Southwick.

Tickets for the tour can be purchased in advance and are good for both days. The gardens can be visited at your leisure on Saturday and Sunday from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

For more information or to purchase tickets, please contact Elaine Mikucki at 568-3827.

Agawam Senior Center's weekly lunch menu

Mon., 6/16: Ziti w/meatballs, tossed salad, cantaloupe.

Tues., 6/17: Swiss steak w/tomatoes & onions, potatoes, chocolate pudding.

Wed., 6/18: Roast turkey w/gravy, stuffing, carrots, cranberry sauce, Jello, and fruit.

Thurs., 6/19: Stuffed peppers, mashed potatoes, corn, mixed fruit.

Fri., 6/20: "Father's Day Celebration" - pork roast, baked potato, fresh veggie, strawberry shortcake.

(All meals served with whole-grain breads; menu subject to change without notice.)

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Come and see "Pinocchio"...



JIMINY CRICKET (Abby Stetson) scolds **Pinocchio** (Dana Allen) for deceiving his papa **Gepetto** (Lyle Pearsons) and friend mouse (Emma Marcos) in Kit and Kaboodle's production of "Pinocchio," scheduled at The Red Door Theatre for one performance only - Saturday, June 14th at 11:00 a.m. Tickets are \$5 each. For reservations, call (413) 789-2026.

*Our deadline is
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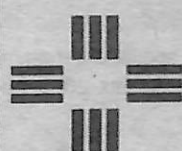
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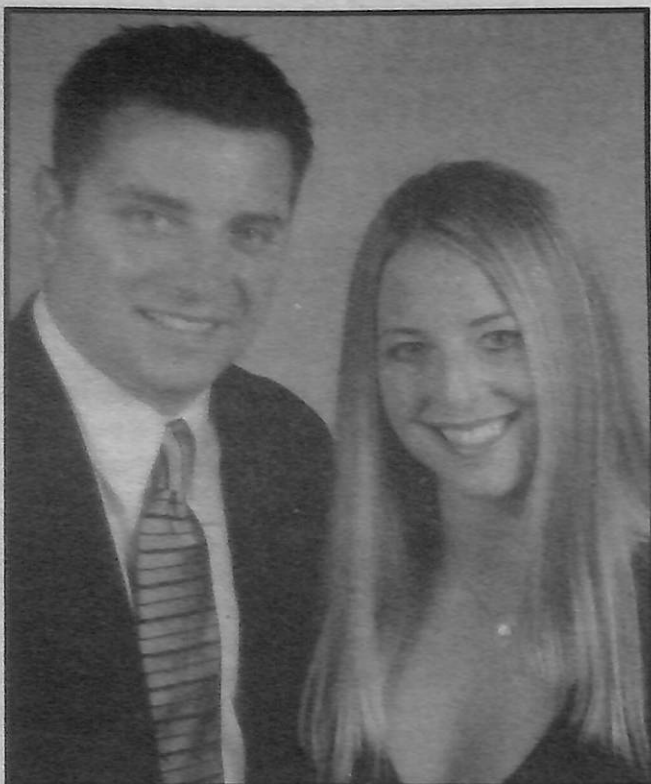


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ANDREW PARRELLI & MARIE BUENDO

Marie Buendo engaged to wed Andrew Parrelli

Gary and Pat Buendo of Emerson Road in Agawam are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Marie Buendo, to Andrew Parrelli, son of Anthony and Diane Parrelli of Marla Place, Agawam.

The bride-to-be is a 2000 graduate of Agawam High School and is attending Westfield State College. She is employed at Olive Oils Restaurant.

The groom-to-be, also a graduate of Agawam High School and Westfield State College, is employed as an Agawam police officer.

A September 2004 wedding is planned.

Agawam High's Class of 1953 schedules 50th reunion

The Agawam High School Class of 1953 will be celebrating their 50th class reunion June 27th, 28th, and 29th, starting with an informal get-together on Friday evening at Christo's Restaurant in Agawam, our popular clambake (choice of steak or lobster) at the Elks in West Springfield on Saturday, and ending with Sunday brunch at the Ivanhoe.

For more information, please call Jerry Fogg at 786-5998.

We are currently trying to locate classmates John Walker III and Fred Harkins.

Anyone having any information, please contact either Jerry Fogg at the above number or Gail Bates at 786-9187.

We would also like to extend this invitation to our friends and other graduating classes of Agawam who may wish to attend one or more of the events.

Again, please call either Jerry Fogg at 786-5998 or Gail Bates at 786-9187.

Amici Italian Festival to be held Sat., October 4th

The Amici Italian Festival is looking for artists, craftpersons, and photographers for its event to be held October 4th on the Agawam Veterans' Green (corner of Main & School Streets).

For entry information, call Rose at 786-4264 or Sue at 786-0290.

Pioneer Valley Girl Scouts honor volunteers...



LAST MONTH, the Girl Scouts of Pioneer Valley held their annual dinner to recognize 100 women and men who have made an outstanding commitment to the girls in our community through volunteer efforts to the Girl Scouts this past year. The strength of the Girl Scout movement rests on the voluntary leadership of its adult members, and this year's honorees were nominated by their peers and have made significant contributions of their time and talent to the organization. In photo above: Girl Scout leader Denise Marvel of Agawam (left) is shown with Sasha ZeBryk of Agawam, Girl Scout adult member, volunteer, and emcee for the recent annual dinner/volunteer recognition event.

Hours of operation at the Parish Cupboard

Deliveries can be made to the Parish Cupboard (1023 Main Street, West Springfield) weekdays between 8:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m., or by appointment by calling 734-7969. The Cupboard's service hours are as follows:

- * Emergency food - Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- * Free breakfast - Monday through Friday, 9:00 to 9:30 a.m.
- * Free lunch - Monday through Friday, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- * Free dinner - Wednesday only, 5:00 to 6:00 p.m.
- * Free clothing - Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Girl Scouts of Pioneer Valley in need of volunteers

The Girl Scouts of Pioneer Valley need adults to work with girls on activities that will inspire the next generation of young adults with confidence, self-esteem, and leadership skills.

Flexible opportunities to work with girls from any age group from five to 17. Hours: two hours per week. No experience necessary. Training will be provided.

Rewards include networking with other adults in the community; being able to share a special skill or talent; rejoice in knowing that you are influencing the success of our next generation.

For more information, contact Brenda Wolfe at 525-4124, 1-800-639-7047, or email at bwolfe@gspv.org.

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"Adopt-A-Shelter-Cat" Month at the Spfld. MSPCA

Because so many cats are not spayed or neutered, each spring the nation's shelters are overflowing with a multitude of kittens. By June, the Springfield MSPCA Animal Shelter faces the same challenge - there is not enough room for all of the cats and kittens received at the shelter, nor are there enough homes available for all of them.

The MSPCA estimates there are up to one million unowned, free-roaming cats in Massachusetts alone. These numbers are so large, they are hard to imagine. But it is not hard to imagine the suffering of each individual animal and it is not hard to do something to help prevent that suffering.

The best way to help prevent overpopulation is to make sure your pet is spayed or neutered. The procedure, performed painlessly under anesthesia, is the best and safest way to stop adding to the pet population. If you have already spayed or neutered your own pet but would still like to assist, the MSPCA is accepting donations to subsidize the cost of spay/neuter surgeries for those who need assistance.

In addition to spaying and neutering, the MSPCA recommends that pet owners keep their cats safely indoors. Indoor cats are likely to live twice as long because they are not exposed to the outdoor dangers, such as getting hit by a car, contracting diseases, being poisoned, or conflicting with wildlife or other pets.

The public is encouraged to consider adopting a shelter cat or kitten in observance of Adopt-A-Shelter-Cat Month at 171 Union Street in Springfield. Cat information will be on display, and a Cat Stats chart in the Shelter lobby will compare the number of cats received and adopted last year versus this year. These sobering numbers will hopefully lead pet owners to spay or neuter their cat and help spread the word about the importance of spaying and neutering, as well as encourage more cat lovers to adopt.

During Adopt-A-Shelter-Cat Month, off-site cat adoptions will be held at the following locations:

* **Walmart**, Northampton, 9:00-11:00 a.m., every Sunday in June.

* **Edwards' Bookstore**, Tower Square, Main Street, downtown Springfield, noon-2:00 p.m., every Thursday in June.

Adoption fees for cats and kittens include vaccinations, flea prevention, microchip identification, veterinary exam, feline leukemia test, and de-worming. Adoption rates are as follows:

* The adoption fee for a cat that *has not* been spayed or neutered is \$90, including a voucher redeemable for a mandatory spay or neuter procedure.

* The adoption fee for a cat that *has* been spayed or neutered is \$60.

For more information about Adopt-A-Shelter-Cat Month, contact Valerie Hackett, Shelter Events and Marketing Specialist, Springfield MSPCA Animal Shelter, at (413) 750-7601.

Strawberry supper to be held at Grange

Community Grange #382 of Feeding Hills will hold its 24th annual strawberry supper on Wednesday, June 18th. The supper will be held at the Grange Hall, located at 47 North West Street in Feeding Hills. Continuous servings will be from 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

The menu will consist of ham, homemade potato salad and cole slaw, baked beans, rolls, pickles, strawberry shortcake with real whipped cream, and a choice of beverages.

The donation is \$7.75 for adults and \$3.75 for children under 12.

Reservations can be made by calling Pauline at 789-2061. Walk-ins will be accepted, and the public is invited to attend.

Registration scheduled for Perry Lane Nursery School

Registration for Perry Lane Nursery School will be held at the Agawam Parks & Recreation office Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. on a first-come, first-served basis.

Classes are held on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:00-11:30 for three year-olds; Monday and Wednesday afternoons from 12:30-3:00 for three year-olds; Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings from 9:00-11:30 for four year-olds; and Monday, Wednesday, and Friday afternoons from 12:30-3:00 for four year-olds.

Cost of the two-day program is \$80 per month plus a \$4 per month snack fee.

The three day program costs \$95 per month plus a \$5 per month snack fee.

Activities include circle time, arts and crafts, ride on toys, playground, sidewalk chalk, story time, computers, listening center, and dramatic play.

For more information and registration, please call Perry Lane Nursery School at 789-1616, or the Agawam Parks & Recreation office at 821-0513 or 821-0514.

June calendar of events for Golden Age Club, Chapter 2

Wed., June 18th: Annual Chicken Barbecue at the Brass Rail in Southwick. Social Hour at 11:30 a.m. with dinner at noon. Richie Mitnick at the keyboard and David Colucci, singer, will entertain.

Mon., June 23rd-Fri., June 27th: Bus trip to Kutsher's Country Club in the Catskills of New York.

Fri., June 27th: Board of Directors' meeting at 1:00 p.m. at the Senior Center.

NOTICE: We are in the process of issuing a new Membership Book. If you have not paid your dues for 2003 and wish your name and address in the book, please send a check for \$3 to Agawam Golden Age Club, Chapter 2, c/o Rosemarie Usher, 157 River Rd., Agawam.

Also, if you have moved, please include your new address and phone number. Thank you.

For information on trips, please call Arthur Usher at 786-3567.

All Agawam seniors are cordially invited to join Chapter 2. Please see Rosemarie Usher, vice-president.

First Annual Agawam Senior Center Day scheduled for Saturday, August 9th

The Friends of the Agawam Senior Center is sponsoring the FIRST ANNUAL AGAWAM SENIOR CENTER DAY to be held on Saturday, August 9th from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. on the Agawam Veteran's Green.

Come join the Friends of the Agawam Senior Center for a day of music and refreshments and come browse through the many vendors that will be featuring arts & crafts, antiques, and much more. The Agawam Senior Athletes will be on hand to compete against the Mayor, City Council, and School Committee in challenging and amusing games. Come

down to the Veteran's Green and watch! It is sure to be a fun time for all ages!

If you are interested in becoming a vendor for this event, please contact the Agawam Senior Center at 821-0604 for more information. The rain date for this event is Saturday, August 16th. All proceeds from this event will benefit the expansion project at the Agawam Senior Center.

Donations are always welcome and appreciated! All donations should be made payable to Friends of the Agawam Senior Center, P.O. Box 238, Agawam, MA 01001.

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Church News

Weekly news and events from St. John the Evangelist Church

* ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL:

Although the Annual Catholic Appeal 2003 officially ended on May 30th, contributions may be made directly to this parish or the Diocesan Office throughout the summer.

If you have not made your gift to the Annual Catholic Appeal 2003, please consider this request. Place your generous donation into the collection basket or bring it to the rectory.

To those who have supported the Appeal this year, many thanks to you for your generosity.

* RECENTLY CONFIRMED ON MAY 28TH:

Theresa Bonavita, Caitlin Briere, Kristin Bushey, Neil Donah, Meghan Ennis, Katherine Forbes, Malerie Gardner, Adam Hajdamowicz, Ryan Hedges, Steve Hopkins, Sarah Huffman.

Jenna Insero, Katie Knodler, Celina Knowlton, Michael Laborde, Sarah Landry, Thomas Light, Erin Marsh, Cindy Mellen, John Montalvo, Katherine O'Connell, Nicholas Pandolfi.

Heather Pisano, Julie Pisano, Anthony Rueli, Patricia Sheehan, Stephen St. Peter, Paul Surowiec, Jeffrey Touchette, Angela Vinton, Lisa Whitehead, Mary Zajac.

* PILGRIMAGE TO THE SHRINES OF CANADA:

Reservations are now being taken for a bus pilgrimage to the shrines of Canada.

This is a five-day pilgrimage beginning on August 18th and ending on August 22nd.

We will visit the shrines of St. Anne de Beaupre, St. Joaquim, Our Lady of the Cape, St. Joseph's Oratory, the tomb of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha, St. Patrick's

Basilica, and Notre Dame of Montreal.

The cost for the five days is \$467 (\$100 single supplement), which includes the bus, all hotels, and nine meals. There is limited seating, so it is important that you make reservations soon.

For reservations, call Our Lady of Czestochowa Church in Turners Falls, MA, 1-413-863-4748.

* ST. JOHN'S OVER 60 CLUB:

The group will be attending the ballet "Swan Lake" on Thursday, July 17th, in Saratoga Springs, NY.

The cost is \$64, and all are welcome to join us. Call Lil, 786-9586.

* PARISH PICNIC:

The Parish Picnic will be coming up sometime in August; however, no date has been set.

If you would like to volunteer your time and talents, please call the rectory during office hours and leave your name, phone number, and what you would like to do to help with the games, cook, or work on prizes.

* LOAVES & FISHES:

This program is in need of hot dogs and beans; they serve more than 160 people every month.

Please bring them in anytime, and thank you.

* ATTENTION, EXERCISERS:

Due to construction activity, the Exercise Room will be closed from June 2nd to approximately June 30th.

We are sorry for the inconvenience and will strive to have the room reopened as soon as possible.

* NEW MASS SCHEDULE:

The new schedule of Masses does not become effective until January of 2004.

Announcements from Sacred Heart Church in F. Hills

Weekly Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday Masses: 7:30, 9:00, and 11:00 a.m.

Monday Mass: 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday Masses: 8:00 a.m.

Thursday Eucharistic Prayer Service: 8:00 a.m.

Holy Day Vigil Mass: 5:30 p.m.

Holy Day: 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Sacred Heart Parish Office Hours

Mon.-Thurs.: 9:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.; **Fri.:** 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. **Office is closed on Saturdays, Sundays, and Holidays.**

Sunday Evening Mass

In addition to our regularly scheduled Sunday Masses, I have added a Sunday evening Mass at 6:00 p.m. This added Mass became effective on Sunday, June 1st. This Mass offers those who work over the weekends and those who are away for a rest, an opportunity to nourish and nurture their spiritual lives.

Weekly Calendar

Mon., June 16th: 6:30 p.m., Rosary for World Peace - Church

Wed., June 18th: 8:30 a.m., Rosary for World Peace - Church; 5:15 p.m., Weight Watchers - Center; 7:00 p.m., Senior Center rehearsal - Church.

Rosary For World Peace

The Rosary for World Peace is recited every Monday evening at 6:30 p.m. and also every Wednesday morning after the 8:00 a.m. Mass.

June 14th healing conference sponsored by Order of St. Luke

The Western Massachusetts Greater Springfield Chapter of the Order of St. Luke invites you to its healing conference, "The Resurrection of the Forgotten Touch," on Saturday, June 14th, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main Street.

The conference speaker will be Nigel W.D. Mumford, the internationally-known author of "The Healing Ministry of Jesus." He is also the executive director of the Oratory of the Little Way / Prayer and Healing Conference Ministry in Gaylordsville, Connecticut.

The pre-registration fee for the June 14th healing conference is \$25; on the day of the conference, the

fee will be \$30 (both fees include lunch). The conference program will entail the following schedule:

8:30 to 9:00 a.m., Registration; 9:00 a.m., Open Praise & Worship, Presentation by Nigel Mumford; 10:30 a.m., Break; 11:00 a.m., Presentation by Nigel Mumford; 12:30 to 1:30 p.m., Lunch & Book Table; 1:30 to 3:00 p.m., Healing Service and Laying of Hands, Anointing, Holy Communion; 3:00 to 4:00 p.m., Fellowship Time and Book Table.

There will be an opportunity for everyone to be prayed for individually. Prayer Teams will be provided by the Order of St. Luke Clergy.

For further information, please call the Agawam Congregational Church at 786-7111.

Strawberry supper to be held at VCC on Sat., June 14th

Valley Community Church will hold a strawberry supper on Saturday, June 14th, from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. at the church, which is located at 152 South Westfield Street, Feeding Hills.

The menu will consist of half a baked chicken, assorted salads, baked beans, rolls and butter, condiments, your choice of beverage, and strawberry shortcake for dessert. Donation is \$8 for adults and \$4 for children 12 and under. For reservations, call Shirley at 786-2576 or the church at 786-2445.

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One Tough Job

The Lord gives wisdom. - Proverbs 2:6

The comment from Joe, my son's tennis coach, surprised me. We had just talked about which group of tennis players Steve should practice with, and Joe must have sensed my concern for doing the right thing for my son. Realizing that this was just one small decision I had to make as I tried to guide him, Joe said, "Being a parent must be really hard work."

Indeed it can be. Dedicated parents spend much of their time supporting, encouraging, instructing, protecting, and challenging their children. And sometimes all that steering and urging seems futile when the child starts to veer off course. That's when being a parent is "really hard work." If you find yourself there, perhaps some biblical parent-child principles can help.

One portion of Scripture that provides great instruction is Proverbs 2. Although addressing the son, this passage can also serve as a guide to what parents should teach their children. According to this passage, children must be taught to treasure God's commands (v.1), to call out for understanding (v.3), to grasp what it means to fear the Lord (v.5), and to practice God's wisdom in their lives (v.6).

When these things become part of a child's life, the parents' job will get a little easier. - JDB

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To guide with love and sacrifice

And write on children's hearts God's name. —Anon.

A godly parent is a child's best guide to God.

www.agawamchurch.org



Reflections...

Rev. Peter Monahan

In association with
Agawam Church of the Bible
(413) 789-1377
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Do we deserve God's help?

Let's face it, there are times when each of us is down in the dumps for one reason or another. Even if our problems don't seem to be a big deal to other people, they can still overwhelm us. Psalm 121 says, *I lift up my eyes to the hills - where does my help come from? My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth.* But then we might wonder, do I deserve God's help?

People have a tendency to think that we get what we deserve. If we're good, we expect that on balance our lives will be good. If people are bad, we think it is fitting that they should suffer. If people are good and they suffer, we usually think along the lines "they don't deserve that." If people are bad and they seem to get away with it, our sense of justice is outraged.

Even though we may see the world this way, God does not. Psalm 103 says in part, *The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. He does not treat us as our sins deserve. As a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear Him; for He knows how we are formed, He remembers that we are dust.*

The people of Israel were hardly a people deserving of God's compassion and help. Speaking through the prophet Isaiah, God said in no uncertain terms that the people of Israel had repeatedly let Him down. *Hear O heavens! Listen O earth! For the LORD has spoken: "I have reared children and brought them up, but they have rebelled against Me. The ox knows his master and the donkey his owner's manger, but Israel does not know, My people do not understand."*

Even though the people of Israel repeatedly sinned, God did not give them what they deserved. God still wanted to bless them. It was for that reason that God had raised up Isaiah to be a prophet in the first place. *In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord seated on a throne, high and exalted, and the train of His robe filled the temple.*

Above Him were seraphs, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two

they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. And they were calling to one another: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty; the whole earth is full of His glory." At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook and the temple was filled with smoke.

At first, the glory of God frightened Isaiah. Perhaps he thought that God would give Israel what they deserved. *"Woe to me!" I cried. "I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the LORD Almighty."*

But God did not want to punish Israel. He wanted to draw them to Himself. *"Then one of the seraphs flew to me with a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with tongs from the altar. With it he touched my mouth and said, 'See, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for.' Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send? And who will go for Us?' And I said, 'Here am I. Send me!'"*

In Jesus' day, one group of religious leaders was called Pharisees. They were big believers in the notion that people get what they deserve. While they believed that their own religious activities made them deserving of God's blessings, they were also convinced that the average person deserved nothing other than God's wrath. They were a pretty harsh bunch.

On various occasions, some of the Pharisees met with Jesus. Some of them accused Jesus of misrepresenting Himself and misrepresenting God. Others, however, seemed to be more willing to listen to Jesus and hear Him out. One such Pharisee was a man named Nicodemus. *He came to Jesus at night and said, "Rabbi, we know You are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the miraculous signs You are doing if God were not with him."*

Apparently, at least some of the Pharisees realized that Jesus was really connected with God, but perhaps they were confused that Jesus did not say that people get what they deserve. They had forgotten what the Bible says about God in Psalm 103: *He does not treat us as our sins deserve.*

So how does God treat us? The same way He always did, with love. Jesus said, *"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him."*

Agawam Church of the Bible news & notes

* Sunday Mornings:

This month, Pastor Brad Wright will begin conducting a message series on the "One Another" Commands of Scripture, which describe for us how we are to relate to one another in our marriages, homes, and church family.

During every Sunday Service, a nursery and Children's Church program (through the fourth grade) is provided throughout the morning.

Following the 10:00 a.m. Sunday Service (at about 11:00), we have age-divided classes for all children, and for adults coffee and refreshments followed by an informal discussion of the morning's message.

* Small Groups:

Our Men's Group continues to meet every Saturday from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. at the church office, currently studying the topic "How To Raise Christian Kids In A Non-Christian World."

Our Ladies' Group meets every Wednesday morning for Bible Study and fellowship from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

We also have several evening Small Groups (Bible study and fellowship) for adults that meet throughout the week.

* Activities:

Our family camping and hiking trip to the White Mountains is planned for June 26th, and a family camping trip to the DAR State Campground will take place on August 22nd.

Additionally, "Promisekeepers" for men and "Women of Faith" for our ladies is coming up, and our Annual Vacation Bible School has been scheduled for July 28th-31st.

Mark your calendars, stay tuned, and don't miss out!

* About ACB:

Agawam Church of the Bible (ACB) meets every Sunday morning at the Agawam Junior High School auditorium (1305 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills) at 10:00 a.m.

We are a non-denominational church emphasizing genuinely loving relationships, Biblical teaching for life change, meaningful and contemporary worship, and the communication of the Gospel to those who don't know Christ.

Our worship is decidedly contemporary without neglecting great hymnody from the past. In our Sunday morning message, we seek to teach the Bible (topically or passage by passage) in such a practical way that both the growing believer and the searching guest can benefit from it each and every Sunday.

If you don't have a church family that you call "home," we would love to have you attend one or more of our Sunday Services to see if this is the place where you belong.

If you would like to find out more about our church before visiting, check out our website at www.AgawamChurch.org or call Pastor Brad Wright at 789-2904.



OUR ANNUAL
"GRADUATION
ISSUE" will be published
next Thursday, June 19th.
The deadline for ALL
college announcements,
scholarship news, photos,
etc., is Monday, June
16th, at 12:00 noon.

Store Hours
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"What's happening?" at Faith Bible Church in Agawam

Who Are We?

We are a non-denominational church dedicated to honoring God by teaching, preaching, and implementing Biblical doctrine toward maturing the saints in service to our Lord and Savior.

If you are looking for a place to worship the Lord, please visit us. All visitors are welcome.

Where Are We?

We are a growing church located at 370 Shoemaker Lane in Agawam.

Call 786-1681 for more information.

What Can We Offer You?

Sunday School:

Adult and children's Sunday School is held every Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m.

Church Service:

Sunday services are held at 10:30 a.m.

This Sunday's message will be delivered by Senior Pastor James Jasmin.

Children's Church:

Junior Church is held at 10:30 a.m. in the Wilma Powers Chapel for children up to the eighth grade.

Nursery:

An infant nursery is provided for all church services.

Communion:

Communion is served on the first Sunday of the month.

A Class On The "End Times." Taught By Pastor Jasmin:

Mondays - 6:30 p.m.

Pastor Jasmin teaches a class on the "Footsteps of the Messiah."

This is a class based on the "End Times."

Mid-Week Worship Service:

On Wednesday evening, we hold a prayer service at 6:30 p.m., and a praise and worship service at 7:00 p.m.

This is a joyous time of worshipping the Lord through song.

Mid-Week Bible Study:

Wednesdays at 12:00 noon at the Bamboo House in Springfield.

Call 786-1681 for details or directions.

Faith Bible Church would like to stand in support for President Bush and also for our troops overseas.

We thank God for the men and women who put their lives on the line so that we can live in freedom in the home of the brave and the land of the free!!!

Valley Community Church welcomes one and all

Our Sanctuary is located at 152 South Westfield Street in Feeding Hills, high atop a high overlooking a panoramic view of God's blessings.

We are a non-denominational church accepting people of the Christian faith who have or are looking to accept Christ as their personal Savior.

We welcome all to attend our Sunday worship service at 9:30 a.m. and hear the Lord's Word and the message of His servant, Pastor Stephen Dennehy.

Following the service, worshipers are invited to attend fellowship downstairs in Dunn Hall to share refreshments and conversation before adult Bible Study at 11:00 a.m.

If you would like more information on our church and its services and activities, please call the office at (413) 786-2445.

Weekly calendar of events from Agawam Congregational Church

Agawam Congregational Church (745 Main Street) where the Holy Spirit is alive, uniting people with Christ through transforming ministries, vibrant worship, diligent study, and warm fellowship. Our services are at: - 9:00 a.m. for the Contemporary Service; - 10:30 a.m. for the Traditional Service.

This Sunday (June 15th), the Agawam Congregational Church will celebrate Church School Day, Teacher Recognition, and the Celebration of Father's Day.

We will have a word of appreciation to our Choir. Reverend Earl will preach on the sermon, "Fatherless No More."

We would like to thank the following people who have donated their time and talents with all our children:

Stu Kibbe, Debbie Most, Karen Hastings, Linda Jamgochian, Laura Montigney, Diane Kibbe, Gail Mathes, Shirley Stelma, Jeannie Lewis, Rick Cormier, Dave Bertagnoli, Christopher Martin, Steve Lemire, Neal Ellsworth, Diane Harper, Linda Kristofore, Allie Bertagnoli, Katie Tapply, Beverly Follis, and Cindy Taylor.

NEXT SUNDAY, WE WILL START

OUR NEW WORSHIP HOURS:

Summer Worship Schedule:

BEGINNING JUNE 22nd, PLEASE NOTE, WE WILL HAVE ONE SERVICE AT 9:30 A.M. WITH BOTH TRADITIONAL AND CONTEMPORARY STYLE.

The Church office hours will also be changing **starting on June 23rd.** The new hours will be 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

FUTURE EVENTS

Healing Conference With Nigel Mumford:

The Greater Springfield Chapter of the Order of St.

Luke is sponsoring a healing conference titled "The Resurrection of the Forgotten Touch" on June 14th from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main Street. Seats are still available. Please call the church office for more information. Pre-registration fee is \$25. Registration fee on the day of the conference is \$30 (this includes lunch).

Christian Healing Ministry:

The next Order of St. Luke Healing Service will take place on Sunday, July 13th, at 4:00 p.m. at the church. Our speaker will be the Reverend Doctor Earl Bergman. Reverend Earl is Pastor of the Union Church in Springfield and a Counselor at Interfaith Chapel at Westfield State College. He has his doctorate degree in Pastoral Counseling. He will share with us his and his son's own personal testimony of healing and the faith it brought to him.

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Sun. (6/15): 9:00 a.m., Contemporary Worship, FATHER'S DAY; 10:30 a.m., Traditional Worship, FATHER'S DAY.

Mon.: 7:00 p.m., Pastor Parish

Tues.: 11:00 a.m., Heritage West Service

Wed.: 6:00 p.m., Praise Band; 6:00 p.m., Music Committee

Come and be blessed at either service as the Holy Spirit refreshes your soul. There is Church School and childcare available during the service.

Also, following the service there is a fellowship hour in Bryan Hall. Pastor Earl and his wife, Barbara, are also members of the Order of St. Luke and are always available for prayer after the service.

Members of the community are invited to participate in all church events. For further information, please call the church office at 786-7111.

Office hours are Monday through Friday, 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 to 3:00 p.m.

If you visit the Advertiser News' office at 23 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills (above Remillard Insurance), please note that our main entrance is in the back. Please park on the side of the building and use the back entrance...

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Thurs. - Fri. 9-5

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Upcoming activities at All Saints Parish in Agawam

*St. Anthony of Padua Church * St. Theresa of the Child Jesus Church*

Rev. Steven Amo, Administrator
St. Anthony of Padua Church, 108 Bridge St.,
Agawam; St. Theresa of the Child Jesus Church, 74
Bridge St., Agawam

Rectory: (413) 786-4451. Website: www.allsaints.alphanine.com.

Mass Schedule

Mon. & Tues.: 9:00 a.m., St. Anthony
Wed.: 9:00 a.m., St. Anthony - COMMUNION SERVICE (no Mass)
Thurs.: 7:00 p.m., St. Anthony
Fri. & Sat.: 9:00 a.m., St. Anthony
Sat.: 4:30 p.m., St. Theresa
Sun.: 8:30 a.m. (St. Anthony) and 11:00 a.m. (St. Theresa)
Holy Day Vigil: 6:00 p.m., St. Theresa
Holy Day: 9:00 a.m./6:00 p.m., St. Anthony
Rosary: One half hour before daily Mass

Calendar Of Events

(Please note change in church location effective May 1, 2003 for daily Masses. Location of the Lord's Day Masses remains the same.)

Thurs., June 12th: 6:30 p.m., Rosary at St. Anthony's; 7:00 p.m., Mass at St. Theresa's offered for "The People of All Saints Parish."

Fri., June 13th: 8:30 a.m., Rosary at St. Anthony's; 9:00 a.m., Mass at St. Anthony's offered in memory of the Christopher and Pilegi families; 6:00 p.m., Mass in honor of St. Anthony of Padua at St. Anthony's Church, followed with a procession with St. Anthony of Padua.

Sat., June 14th: 8:30 a.m., Rosary at St. Anthony's; 9:00 a.m., Mass at St. Anthony's offered in memory of the deceased members of the Lango family; 4:30 p.m., Mass. at St. Theresa's offered in memory of Mary and Michael O'Connell.

Sun., June 15th: "Most Holy Trinity Sunday." 8:30 a.m., Mass at St. Anthony's offered in memory of Alfred Holtz and Richard LaChapelle; 11:00 a.m., Mass at St. Theresa's offered in memory of George Goyette and Patrick Coughlin.

Mon., June 16th: 8:30 a.m., Rosary at St. Anthony's; 9:00 a.m., Mass at St. Anthony's offered for Maria Summa on her 80th birthday.

Tues., June 17th: 8:30 a.m., Rosary at St. Anthony's; 9:00 a.m., Mass at St. Anthony's offered in memory of Tony Andre; 7:00 p.m., Parish Council meeting in the Parish Hall at St. Theresa's.

Wed., June 18th: 8:30 a.m., Rosary at St. Anthony's; 9:00 a.m., COMMUNION SERVICE at St. Anthony's (NO MASS).

Thurs., June 19th: 6:30 p.m., Rosary at St. Anthony's; 7:00 p.m., Mass at St. Anthony's offered "For the People of All Saints Parish."

All Saints Parish To Celebrate

Feast Of St. Anthony

All Saints Parish will celebrate the "Feast of St. Anthony" on his feast day, June 13th. A 6:00 p.m. special Mass is planned at St. Anthony Church, followed by a procession through the neighborhood block of Bridge, High, Moore, and Maple Streets. The celebration will conclude with a light meal in the Parish Hall. All are welcome to join in as we honor one of our special patron saints.

St. Anthony of Padua was born in Portugal in 1195. A learned and gentle man, St. Anthony of Padua became a Franciscan shortly after being ordained a priest at the age of 24. He was chosen by St. Francis of Assisi to teach theology to the friars at Padua. Through his work, he gained the reputation as a "Worker of wonders" and "Finder of lost articles." The Christ Child is one of his emblems; two others are a book, and a lily for purity.

All Saints Parish's 3rd Annual Picnic

The 3rd Annual Picnic of All Saints Parish (St. Anthony/St. Theresa Churches) will be held on Sunday, June 22nd, at the Polish-American Club on Southwick Street, Feeding Hills.

This year, Glen Chamberland Caterer will prepare the food, and the menu will consist of hamburgers, cheeseburgers, hot dogs, boneless/skinless chicken breast sandwich, potato salad, macaroni salad, tossed salad, baked beans, watermelon, and ice cream Dixie cups. Soda and coffee will also be available.

The raffle this year has some great prizes: 1st prize, \$250 in cash; 2nd prize, 19" color TV; 3rd prize, gas grill; 4th prize, mini microwave oven; 5th prize, DVD player; 6th prize, four passes to "The Big E"; 7th prize, air conditioner. Raffle tickets are \$1 per ticket, or

a book of 12 tickets for \$10. The raffle drawing will be held at the end of the picnic, and the winner need not be present.

Once again, the picnic is free to parishioners. Relatives, friends, and guests are welcome for the nominal fee of \$7 each. Parishioners are to pick up their tickets on or before June 15th; after that date, parishioners will be charged \$7 per ticket. Tickets for the picnic and raffle will be available in the church vestibule before and after each weekend Mass, or you may contact the parish secretary, Ann, to make arrangements to pick up tickets at the rectory. Tickets will also be available for sale at the picnic.

After enjoying the picnic food, there will be games for both the children and adults. D.J. Ray Bishop will provide music for our enjoyment. There will also be a "Penny Raffle," face painting, snow cones, popcorn, and the famous magician, Michael Wald.

All Saints Parish Mission Statement

As a community of faith, we strive to live the examples of our patrons, the saints in heaven. We gather around the Eucharistic tables as one in mind and heart seeking an interior relationship with Christ that then empowers each member to bring His presence into the world. From our youth (whom we educate) to our aged and infirmed (to whom we bring comfort), we strive to recognize the honor of each through the fostering of sacramental and spiritual healing.

As a community of prayer, we implore God for the needs of all His people. Always loyal to and supportive of the larger Church, we gather around our Bishop and our chief teacher and shepherd as successor of the Apostles.

As a parish family, we are dedicated to the values and morals taught by our beloved Catholic faith. When one among us is in need, it is our communal obligation to bring the comfort and love of Christ into that situation.

At the center of our lives is the worship of Christ, receiving of His Body and Blood in the Holy Eucharist, and allowing that Presence to work in and through those who have come together to offer themselves in praise.

In Christ, we have been called to be family, as family, we have been called to love and worship. We seek always to keep that call alive and vital in our community and in our world.

The "Good News" from First Baptist Church

The First Baptist Church of Agawam is located at 760 Main Street.

Our telephone number is 786-7300. The church office is open from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday.

We invite you to come and join us at the First Baptist Church of Agawam on Sunday, June 15th, at 9:30 a.m. for our morning worship service.

Visitors are always welcome to attend and share with us this special time of fellowship and worship in our sanctuary.

Come listen to the inspirational message and share the wonderful fellowship that you will find here at the First Baptist Church of Agawam.

Children of all ages are invited and encouraged to attend the worship service with adults. Following the Children's Story, the children will leave the Sanctuary to attend Children's Church (a fellowship activity for children ages four through the fourth grade).

The younger children are encouraged to go to the Nursery for a fun time making crafts, playing with

games and toys, and being around other children. Nursery care is available from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Visitors are encouraged to stay after the service for coffee and conversation in Davis Hall. Following this time of fellowship, we offer Sunday School classes for adults and children. The Sunday School classes are for children who are in preschool all the way through and up to adults.

Following the coffee hour, an Adult Forum/Sermon Talkback is available to any interested adults, as well as an Adult Bible Study Class which is held in the Upper Room.

In addition, three Adult Bible Study Groups are being offered during the week. They will offer an opportunity for beginners and those who know a bit about the Bible and our Christian Faith to grow in understanding.

If you have any questions about these groups and/or the time(s) they are held, please speak to Pastor Tom Rice or call the church office at 786-7300. (No questions are ever out of place.)

For photo coverage in The AAN, call 786-7747 or 786-8137; however, please give us at least 72 hours' notice prior to your event. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter...

Various Christian studies offered at St. David's Church

St. David's Episcopal Church is hosting a variety of Christian studies at its 699 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills location.

Men's Bible Study -

Saturdays from 7:00-8:30 a.m. Newcomers are welcome for this discussion type study; no previous Bible knowledge is required; led by members of the Men's Ministry Team; continues every Saturday.

Bible Study -

Mondays from 7:00-8:00 p.m. Focus on the Apostle Paul. Newcomers are always welcome. Led by Bill Howe.

Men's Lectionary Bible Study -

Mondays from 8:15-9:30 p.m. The focus of this study will be the Saturday/Sunday service scripture readings, led by Pat Murray.

Women's Bible Study -

Tuesdays from 1:30-3:00 p.m. The focus of this study will be on Corinthians. Newcomers are welcome; no previous Bible experience required; led by Carol Howe.

Please register for all classes at St. David's. Childcare and transportation are available on request.

Contact the specific teacher for details through St. David's - 786-6133 or www.stdavidsagawam.org.



Spotlight On Business



WESTFIELD BANK VICE PRESIDENT Bruce H. Eger delivers \$108,000 in "Future Fund" contributions to Kathy Treglia, Vice President of Operations for the YMCA of Greater Springfield, and Frank Robinson, incoming President of the Board for the Association for Community Living.

Legal Memo

by
Alan L. Ferrigno, Esq.
546 Springfield St., F.H.
(413) 786-9454



Negligence & tort Restaurant - Trip & fall over menu stand

The plaintiff, a 35 year-old woman, was at the defendant's business premises when a young child in her care suddenly ran toward the door, which was open and located near a busy street.

The plaintiff ran after the boy and tripped over the leg of an easel holding a menu. A privacy/decorative wall reportedly obscured the easel as the plaintiff ran along the confined space.

The defendant argued that the easel was in plain sight and was open and obvious, and that the accident did not cause all of the plaintiff's injuries.

The plaintiff fractured her ankle and developed dystonia, which permanently contracted and made spasmodic a tendon in her foot.

She underwent years of treatment and surgeries and her grossly deformed and painful foot reportedly will require further surgeries.

The plaintiff was permanently disabled from any physical exertion involving her left foot; her net loss of earning capacity was approximately \$1.4 million. She also incurred approximately \$142,000.00 in hospital and medical bills.

The plaintiff was awarded \$834,000.00 with interest, which totals \$1,334,400.00.

Attorney Alan L. Ferrigno maintains an office at 546 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, Massachusetts. If you have a legal question, Attorney Ferrigno will attempt to address the same in this column. Please send any questions to the address listed above.

At Coldwell Banker...

Barbara Clark earns CRB Designation

Barbara Clark, a REALTOR for Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage at 770 Main Street in Agawam and a member of the Greater Springfield Association of Realtors and the Massachusetts Association of Realtors, earned the prestigious Certified Real Estate Brokerage Manager (CRB) Designation presented by the Council of Real Estate Brokerage Managers (Council).

The CRB is recognized industry-wide as the measure of success for real estate brokers and managers. REALTORS earning the designation have completed a comprehensive program combining experience with management education.

The Council is a not-for-profit affiliate of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS with almost 7,000 members in North America.

Innovative and result-oriented programs, products, and services are continually being developed to enhance the productivity and profitability of Council members.

For more information, contact the Council of Real Estate Brokerage Managers at 800-621-8738, info@crb.com or visit www.crb.com.

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A total of \$108,500...

Westfield Bank donations totaling two organizations

The YMCA of Greater Springfield and the Association for Community Living will benefit from Westfield Bank's new "Future Fund" as contributions were announced at the bank's most recent 150th anniversary party.

Checks totaling \$108,500 were presented to the organizations on Thursday, June 5, at 1:00 p.m. at Westfield Bank's Liberty Street office in Springfield. These bring the bank's "Future Fund" commitments to \$265,900 for the anniversary year.

The largest of the donations - \$100,000 to the YMCA of Greater Springfield - will be applied toward a capital campaign to fund construction of the new Scantic Valley branch in Wilbraham (which broke ground in May) and to purchase and renovate the North End Youth Center's current facility in Springfield. On hand to accept a check for the first \$35,000 was Scott Berg, campaign director, and Kathy Treglia, Vice President of Operations.

A check for \$8,500 was presented to the Association for Community Living to fund a family autism resource development project. The contribution will be used to update and develop new tools for the increasing number of families in Westfield, Holyoke, and Springfield who are affected by autism. Donald Fletcher, executive director, and Frank Robinson, incoming president of the board, were present to accept the check.

Westfield Bank President and CEO Donald A. Williams and Vice President Bruce H. Eger presented both checks on the bank's behalf.

The bank's final parties will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 12th (presstime), at 1642 Northampton Street, Holyoke, and on Friday, June 13th at 1341 Main Street, Springfield.

* * *

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Carlson GMAC Real Estate appoints new sales agents in Agawam office

Charles Reiter, Regional Vice-President of Carlson GMAC Real Estate, is pleased to announce that Steven Lemire and Ann Marie Rivers have joined the firm's Agawam office as sales agents. Both Lemire and Rivers are looking forward to working with their clients and customers with dedication and enthusiasm. A resident of Agawam for the past 11 years, Lemire previously lived in East Granby, Connecticut. He is a certified Citrix Network engineer and is secretary of the Westfield Sportsman's Club. He sits on the board of Wentworth Estate Trustees and serves as the secretary of the Men's Ministry of the Agawam Congregational Church. Lemire holds professional memberships in the Greater Springfield Association of REALTORS, the Massachusetts Association of REALTORS, and the National Association of REALTORS.

A resident of Feeding Hills, Rivers previously lived in Ludlow and East Longmeadow. She obtained an associate's degree in legal administration from Springfield Technical Community College.

Rivers holds professional memberships in the Greater Springfield Association of REALTORS, the Massachusetts Association of REALTORS, and the National Association of REALTORS.

According to Helaine Smelstor, Manager of the firm's Agawam office, "We are pleased that Steven Lemire and Ann Marie Rivers have selected Carlson GMAC Real Estate to pursue their careers in real estate." Carlson GMAC Real Estate is the largest real estate firm in Western Massachusetts and has nine offices with over 200 sales associates in Agawam, Chicopee, East Longmeadow, Longmeadow, Palmer, Springfield, Westfield and Wilbraham.

The Carlson GMAC Real Estate Network is composed of over 65 offices and over 1,250 sales agents servicing New England. A full-service company, Carlson GMAC Real Estate offers a complete network of services, including Buyer and Seller representation, global relocation assistance, Elegant Homes, new home sales, in-house mortgage services, and a pre-licensing school.

For further information, call (413) 786-7982 or visit our website at www.carlsonre.com.

Carlson GMAC Real Estate to sponsor "Career Night"

Charles E. Reiter, Regional Vice-President of Carlson GMAC Real Estate, is pleased to announce that the firm will be sponsoring a free "Career Night." The "Career Night" is scheduled for Thursday, June 19th, at 7:00 p.m. and will be held at our new Regional Headquarters at 723 Main Street, Suite 1, Agawam. This is a terrific opportunity for anyone considering a career in real estate to learn what a Realtor does, how Realtors earn commissions, and what it takes to be an entrepreneur in this rapidly growing industry. For reservations or if anyone is already licensed and would like to hear more about a career in real estate, please contact Charles Reiter, 786-7982. Carlson GMAC Real Estate is the largest real estate firm in Western Massachusetts with over 190 sales associates in Chicopee, Agawam, East Longmeadow, Longmeadow, Palmer, Springfield, Westfield, and Wilbraham. The Carlson GMAC Real Estate Network is composed of over 65 offices and over 1,250 sales agents servicing New England. A full-service company, Carlson GMAC Real Estate offers a complete network of services including buyer and seller representation, global relocation assistance, elegant homes, new home sales, in-house mortgage service, an interactive website, and a pre-licensing school. For further information, please call our Western Massachusetts administrative office at 786-7982 or visit our website at www.carlsonre.com.



Timely Tips On How To Manage Your Finances

by Sue Alvanos
Financial Advisor
American Express Financial Advisors Inc.
IDS Life Insurance Company
Agawam Corporate Ctr., 67 Hunt St.,
Agawam - (413) 821-9380

Saving for retirement when your salary is on hold (Part 2 of 2)

Additional Tips for Success

You can also help ensure that you're on track to build a comfortable retirement nest egg with a few basic investment tips:

* **Practice dollar-cost averaging.** Dollar cost averaging is a method of investing that helps reduce the risks of market timing by investing a fixed amount at regular intervals. When prices are low, your investment purchases more shares. When prices rise, you purchase fewer shares. Over time, the average cost of your shares will usually be lower than the average price of those shares. It does not assure a profit or protect against losses in a declining market. (However, over longer periods of time, it can be an effective means of accumulating shares.) Investors should consider their ability to continue investing through periods of low market prices. Whether you invest through your employer-sponsored retirement plan, an IRA or a taxable investment portfolio, dollar-cost averaging can be a powerful investment tool.

* **Stay diversified.** With the stock market's fluctuations over the past few years, your investment portfolio or employer-sponsored retirement plan account may be overweighted in certain asset classes, such as stocks, bonds, or money market instruments. Check the balance of your portfolio annually to ensure that your investment dollars are spread among multiple assets and asset classes. Such a strategy can help moderate risk.

* **Focus on your long-term goals.** As long as your retirement is five or more years away, you shouldn't be overly concerned by the stock market's day-to-day performance. Don't panic if your retirement fund experiences a temporary loss in value. Likewise, don't get too excited if your holdings perform exceptionally well. Instead, focus on the long-term performance of your investments. Your account balance on any given day or in any particular month isn't as important as your long-term goals.

Plan for Long-Term Security

If you'd like additional guidance on how to boost your savings for retirement or a similar financial goal, consider meeting with your certified financial advisor. Your financial advisor can help you develop a comprehensive financial plan designed to help you comfortably meet your long- and short-term goals.

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Update your appliances...

New homeowners and long-time home dwellers alike may be faced with the need to shop for new appliances sooner or later. Whether you're in the market for a new refrigerator, dishwasher, or central air, the variety of options for each appliance makes the choice less than easy.

Rest assured that your appliance dollar is getting you a lot of bang for the buck: appliances are one of the best values around, especially if you calculate the per-day use of each one.

For example, let's say you spend \$1,000 for a refrigerator and that you have it 15 years. If you divide the purchase price by 5,475 days, you kept your food cold and your ice cream frozen for about 18 cents a day. Not bad. Given that refrigerators last 10 to 18 years - with some still going strong after 40 years - you might find that yours was even more a bargain.

Refrigerators are the most energy-consuming appliance in your home, using \$12 to \$22 a month in energy. When you're shopping, look for the yellow label (either on the outside or inside) that tells what the appliance will cost in energy for 12 months.

As you consider different models, make note of the best energy ratings. Remember to compare like-sized refrigerators: some of the larger models might consume more energy, but they can be more energy-efficient on a per-cubic-foot basis than some of the smaller ones.

Stoves are a great buy, too, when you consider that they last 15 to 25 years. They consume energy at a rate somewhere between \$.12 and \$.35 an hour. Be sure to check out some of the newer convection models; their energy ratings are impressive.

A dishwasher costs about \$.60 a load, and even if you don't mind hand-washing the dinner plates, that's quite a bargain. A good dishwasher will last eight to 12 years and save you a bundle of time.

A washer and dryer cost about \$.50 a load and offer a savings of time and money that's unbeatable. Some of the newer models (especially front-loading types) conserve much more energy than the older models. A washer will last 10 to 12 years, while a dryer will tumble anywhere from 10 to 15 years.

Central air, on the other hand, can be an energy gobble in the appliance family. At about \$.50 cents an hour, it can run up your utility bill. The life expectancy is roughly six to 10 years, though newer models can be expected to go a little longer.

Whether you're shopping for just a new dishwasher, or outfitting your new home top-to-bottom with new appliances, you'll be pleasantly surprised at the energy efficiency of today's models, as well as the savings in general over the models of just a few years ago.

Pam Savioli is a full-time professional Realtor with over 17 years of experience. Call Pam at (413) 748-7565 with any real estate questions you might have.

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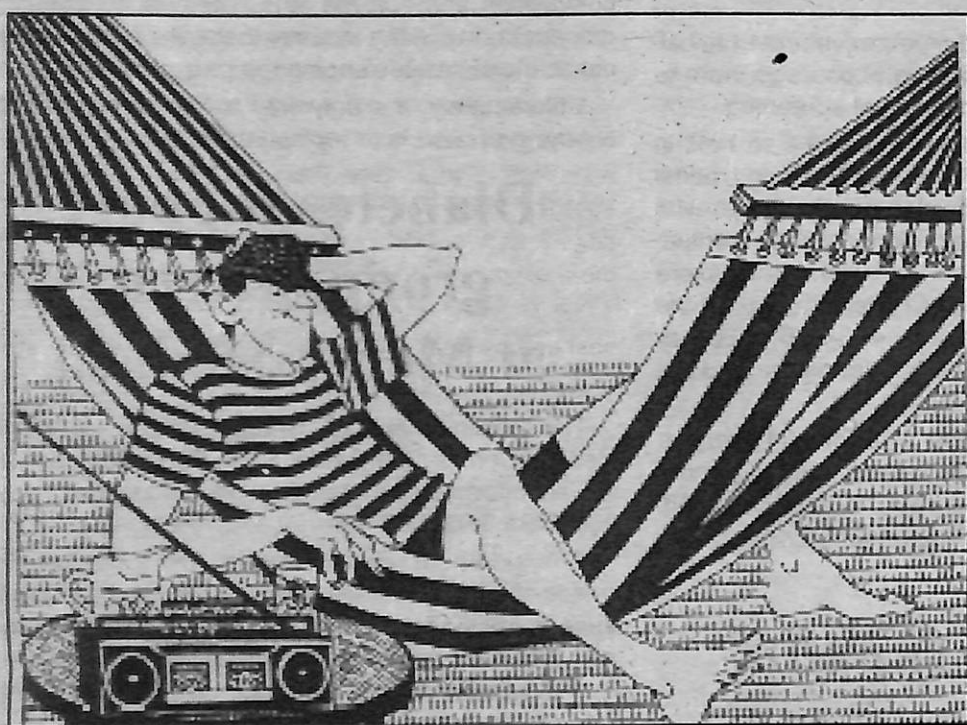
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by Dr. Tami Nelson
Chiropractic Physician
Hampden County Chiropractic
850 Springfield St. - Feeding Hills
786-4820

A good reason to stop smoking

Recently I read two interesting articles in the Dynamic Chiropractic News pertaining to children. One was a study published in the Journal of the American Medical Association, which concludes that young children living in smoking households tend to get more cavities.

Interesting idea. Researchers found that the incidence of cavities in deciduous teeth among children exposed to smoke daily was nearly double that of children from non-smoking households. The study involved 3,500 children from ages four to 11. So, what's the reasoning here? Some explanations were:

- Cigarette smoke lowers the immune response, allowing bacteria associated with tooth decay to proliferate.

- Smoke irritates nasal membranes, leading to "mouth breathing," which, in turn, dries the mouth and leaves less saliva available to counteract lactic acid build-up.

Thus, another good reason to **stop smoking!**

Another report in the Journal of Pediatrics suggests that many children diagnosed with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) may be just suffering from lack of sleep.

The study found that about one-quarter of five- to seven-year-old children with mild symptoms of ADHD snored, suggesting a disturbed sleep pattern. The author noted that many children no longer require ADHD medication once sleep apnea has been addressed. Interesting. Something worth checking into.

Dr. Tami Nelson maintains an office at Hampden County Chiropractic, 850 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills - 786-4820.

- ADVERTISER NEWS -



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"Tell A Friend Thursday..." Help American Cancer Society fight breast cancer

Area women are invited to help share lifesaving information about breast cancer during the American Cancer Society's "Tell A Friend Thursday," an event to be held on June 26th at Baystate Medical Center, from 4:00-7:00 p.m.

Participants will be introduced to "Tell A Friend," a Society-sponsored program that utilizes a peer education approach to help educate women 40 and older about the importance of receiving yearly mammograms. Mammography is currently the best tool available to detect breast cancer in the earliest, most curable stages.

Women involved with the program volunteer to call five friends or family members to encourage them to make an appointment for this annual screening.

The "Tell A Friend Thursday" event will be held in Baystate Medical Center's Chestnut Building, rooms 1 A & B. Training will be provided for all women who are new to the program, and dinner will be served. Door prizes will also be given. To register or for more information, please contact Crystal Brown at the American Cancer Society at 413-886-0628, or Crystal.Brown@cancer.org by Wednesday, June 25th.

Cancer information is also available 24 hours a day, seven days a week through the American Cancer Society's toll-free information line, 1-800-ACS-2345, or by visiting their website at www.cancer.org.

Agawam support group sponsored by the NAMI-WM

On the last Monday of each month, a free support group sponsored by the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill of Western Massachusetts is held at the Agawam Council On Aging, 68 Meadowbrook Manor, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

If you are interested in joining and would like to receive more information about the support group, please contact Lucille Drewnowski at 786-1236.

For Your Eyes Only

by Aaron Vanderhoof
Licensed Optician
Agawam Opticians
338 Walnut St. Ext.,
Agawam
786-0719



Buffing out lens scratches

Question: I dropped my glasses and scratched the lenses. Can the scratches be buffed out?

This is probably the most commonly asked question to an optician. The answer is no. In theory, a scratch could be taken out with a polish or "buffing" process, however, a prescription lens is different.

The prescription is ground into a lens through a process involving the surface curves. Altering the curves in any way (and buffing would) will change the prescription and ruin the lens. There is no polishing process known in the industry that will effectively take out scratches while keeping the prescription intact.

Unfortunately, the only way to rid yourself of the annoying scratch is to replace the lens.

Diabetes support group offered at Mercy Medical

The Joslin Diabetes Center Affiliate at Mercy Medical Center, 299 Carew St. in Springfield is holding an informational meeting on Wednesday, June 25th from 6:00-7:00 p.m.

The one-hour class program will focus on the needs of adults with diabetes for emotional and social support. The goal is to develop a regularly-held support group for adults with diabetes. Michelle Caliento from Brightside School Street Counseling Institute will lead the program.

The program is free of charge. People with diabetes, their family members, and friends are all welcome to attend.

Registration is requested. Please call the Joslin Diabetes Center Affiliate at Mercy Medical Center at 748-7000.

Want to keep up on all the latest news in Agawam and Feeding Hills? Then be sure to subscribe to The Agawam Advertiser News! A one-year subscription costs only \$26, so mail your check today to "The Advertiser News," P.O. Box 263, Feeding Hills, MA 01030.

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Can chiropractic help whiplash victims???

Question: My daughter was recently rear-ended in a multi-car crash. She may have whiplash. Can chiropractic help?

Answer: Has this ever happened to you? You are seated in your car, waiting at a stoplight. Suddenly, you hear a screeching of tires behind you and the harsh sound of metal hitting metal.

Before you can brace yourself, you feel your car moving forward from some unseen force; you've been rear-ended! What happens in these few seconds can have tragic consequences. And what you do about it in the next hours, days, and weeks can forever affect your health.

Most whiplash injuries occur while sitting stationary in your car. Upon impact, your body pushes deeply into your seat. Your head (momentarily isolated by your neck) delays its reaction while your body quickly reaches the limits of your seat. Then, your body instantly changes direction, moving forward to the limits of your seatbelt. Now, your head starts moving backward in the opposite direction!

Unrestrained by a seatbelt, your head is jerked back and then forward beyond its normal limits. Everything seems to be happening in slow motion, yet you are unable to stop your head from whipping backward and then forward. First surprise. Then anger. Then pain.

Don't minimize your own injuries because your car has sustained little or no damage. An immediate chiropractic examination is essential. Pain pills won't heal inflamed tendons and ligaments. Muscle relaxers won't heal torn muscles. A cervical collar won't restore a graceful, forward spinal curve. Specific chiropractic spinal adjustments (because they can help restore proper motion and position of individual spinal bones) can help assure proper healing. Chiropractic doctors can help you get well.

Other common questions I hear:

Why do I have pain in my arms and hands? Because the nerves to the arms and hands exit the spine through the injured area of the neck, numbness and tingling are common. Even lower-back pain can result directly from the trauma or as a reaction to the loss of proper spinal curves.

Why did my headaches start more than a week after my accident? Whether you've been in an accident, stressed at work, or have overexerted yourself in the garden, your body is constantly adapting to the environment. When your capacity to adapt is exhausted, symptoms can appear. This can take days, weeks, months, or years to occur.

Will I ever be normal again? Many chiropractic patients report an end to their symptoms even after other therapies have failed. Those who delay seeking appropriate care often discover that scar tissue and spinal instability require periodic chiropractic check-ups.

How can I prevent whiplash injuries? Since car accidents are the major cause of acceleration/deceleration injuries, defensive driving skills can help. Be sure your taillights and turn signals are properly working. Allow enough stopping distance in front of you. When you slow down or stop, always check your rear-view mirror to see if the driver behind you is paying attention.

Those in need of examination should call us at 789-1369 or 789-1073.

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ADVERTISER NEWS!!!*



For A Better You...
by Judes Ziemba
Center for Self-Development
83 Industrial Lane
Agawam, MA 01001
789-4511

Career advancement & hypnosis

This series will address career advancement where you will learn to set goals and achieve them through hypnosis.

One of the most valuable suggestions that can be implemented through hypnotherapy consists of eight words: What your mind can conceive, YOU can achieve! There is no more important message, for the statement can be applied to any goal - physical, mental, or spiritual.

The mind is a powerhouse, capable of accomplishments beyond imagination. To achieve the potential implied by the above statement, four elements are necessary:

DESIRE: The goal must be important. It must really be wanted. A casual expression such as "I'd like to..." is not nearly sufficient. The desire must be deep and permanent.

BELIEF: It is vital to believe that the goal is achievable, however improbable it may seem. Belief, also known as faith, is a powerful force, capable of performing miracles. This is not necessarily a spiritual requirement. The faith must be in one's self.

EXPECTATION: Hope won't do the job. Thinking that achievement of a goal would be nice is not sufficient. Expectation is required. Success is not a matter of "if," it is a matter of "WHEN!" There is no room for doubt.

DEMAND: Finally, it is essential that the goal-seeker demand of himself/herself the attitudes and actions necessary to full achievement. As the saying goes, "There ain't no free lunch!"

Given the above elements, the fact remains "what your mind can conceive, you can achieve." The mind conceives through visualization which comes easier for some people than others. Yet it can be learned and acquired - hypnotherapy can help and the benefits last a lifetime.

GOAL-SETTING PROBLEMS:

Most people have dreams of success, wealth, love, career advancement, resolution of problems, and more. Learning special techniques under the retention power of hypnosis can help in the achievement of dreams.

One of the major problems in setting goals and achieving career advancement has been described as the "Playpen Syndrome." It begins virtually at birth when children are susceptible. They want to be liked and they learn from parents, teachers, and authority figures that if they do what they are told, they will be liked. If they create problems, they won't be liked.

Young children are placed by parents in a playpen where they are considered safe and away from trouble. They become comfortable in that environment. They are out of the way, they are fed, changed, watched - taken care of. And they are liked because they do not create problems. They are left in the playpen, where their needs are met, they don't get into trouble, and they are liked. But they are not encouraged to learn or advance.

Many children grow up in a playpen. In sports activities, they are allowed to play on teams regardless of their proficiency at the sport, without real motivation to improve. Later, in a working environment, unions cater to their needs, save their jobs regardless of their skills or lack thereof. The union determines their wages and benefits, fights their battles, etc. And the government itself provides the biggest playpen of all, attempting to meet needs and plan the future, without any incentive to become self-sufficient. The playpen syndrome fosters mediocrity. It is promoted by people and agencies who want to avoid being bothered by ambition, creativity, new ideas, or progress.

Judes Ziemba maintains an office at the Center for Self-Development, 83 Industrial Lane, Agawam, 789-4511.

Heritage Woods offering "SelectCare at the Woods"

Heritage Woods Assisted Living Community is announcing a service called "SelectCare at the Woods," which has replaced Genesis SelectCare.

This new program, exclusively for Residents of Heritage Woods, will allow flexible companion aide or care aide services to supplement the care provided by the Resident Care department. Additional add-on services available will include escorts, companions, homemaker, and home health services.

Priced affordably, residents will be able to request occasional, short-term, or long-term services to enhance their quality of life and to maintain their highest practicable level of independence.

For more information on "SelectCare at the Woods" or other services at Heritage Woods, please call Maxine Illingsworth, Director of Marketing, at 786-9704. Heritage Woods is a Genesis ElderCare Community located on the Heritage Hall Campus in Agawam.

Baystate's Blood Donor Center expands hours

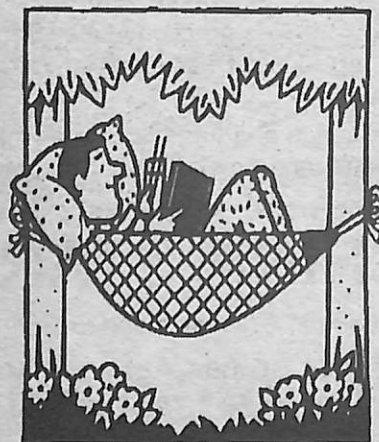
The year-round need for volunteer blood donors to maintain a safe and adequate blood supply has necessitated expanding Blood Donor Center hours into the evening at Baystate Medical Center.

New hours are Monday, Thursday, and Friday from 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., and Tuesday and Wednesday from 8:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. To donate blood, you must be at least age 17, weight at least 110 pounds, and be in good health, free from colds or infections.

The Blood Donor Center at Baystate Medical Center is located on the first floor of Baystate Medical Center's Centennial Building on Chestnut Street in Springfield. Parking is available in Baystate's Centennial Lot, located adjacent to the Centennial Garage. Valet parking service is available at the Centennial entrance from 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Transportation is available for groups of four or more donors. Appointments are recommended, but walk-ins are also welcome.

To schedule an appointment, or for more information, call the Blood Donor Center at Baystate Medical Center at (413) 794-4600.

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Happy Father's Day!



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Arts



TO THE PERFORMERS OF "Sugar and Spice and Everything Nice," Friday the 13th (June 13th, to be exact) is nothing to be superstitious about. Back row: Richie Mitnick and Brad Shepard. Front row: Jessie Rivers and Conni Lind.

"Sugar and Spice" to perform on June 13th at Agawam Baptist Church

There will be no superstitions on Friday, the 13th of June, for "Sugar and Spice and Everything Nice" as they perform in Agawam. The show, which includes music and comedy, features "Sugar and Spice" singers Conni Lind and Jessie Rivers, and the "Everything Nice" is the frosting on the cake with Brad Shepard and accompaniment by Richie Mitnick.

All four performers are very well-known in Western Massachusetts. Conni Lind, "Ms. Senior Massachusetts of 2000," has a lovely soprano voice, and Jessie Rivers, "Ms. Senior Massachusetts of 1995," sings in alto. The women have recently overwhelmed their audiences with the beautiful blend of their voices.

Joining them is Brad Shepard, a popular local radio personality; however, the three of them are no strangers. In the past, Brad, Conni, and Jessie were part of a group known as The Three Baritones and Two Chicks. They also sing on a regular basis with

"Sounds of Music," the popular singers headed up by Richie Mitnick, who will accompany them on keyboard for this performance.

Because this is a Friday the 13th show, it will open with numbers related to magic and superstition, such as "Old Black Magic." They will move on to "With a Little Bit of Luck" in the second portion of the show, and will end with songs about love.

"Oldies" and Broadway tunes are the music of the day, but a good show is not complete without a little bit of comedy ... and the audience can expect some laughs, too.

Reasonably priced, at \$8 per ticket, it is recommended that you purchase your tickets early by calling 821-1309. The performance begins at 7:00 p.m. at Bodurtha Hall at Agawam Baptist Church (corner of Elm and Main Streets). Seating is cabaret-style with tables of eight, and refreshments will be available during the show.

Acoustic Music Jamboree set for June 20th

The Pioneer Valley Pickers and Grinners will hold their Acoustic Music Jamboree, Friday, June 20th at the American Inn, 802 College Highway, Southwick.

Members of the Resurrection Airmen Band will host the event. The musical fun starts at 7:00 p.m. and ends at 9:00 p.m.

We share songs and trade licks in an informal and friendly alcohol- and smoke-free environment. There

is no charge for admission. Refreshments will be available. All ages are welcome. Parking is in the College Highway Medical Associates lot next to the American Inn.

Folks who are not players but just want to come and listen are always welcome. For more information, call 569-3637 or visit us on the Internet at www.pvpg.cjb.net.

On Flag Day (June 14th)...

"Military Appreciation Day" at Six Flags NE

Six Flags New England in Agawam will honor active and veteran military personnel during a special inaugural "Military Appreciation Day" on Flag Day, Saturday, June 14th. The day will feature a flag dedication ceremony; a special scholarship fundraiser; military marching bands and color guards; guest speakers; and a concert by Grammy Award winner Lee Greenwood.

All events during "Military Appreciation Day" will take place in Six Flags' picturesque River's Edge Picnic Grove. The event will kick off at 3:00 p.m. with a dedication ceremony featuring a memorial flagpole and plaque to honor all active and inactive military for their brave service. Military color guards and bands will be part of the dedication, along with a special ribbon cutting by local military personnel, veterans, park officials, and Agawam Mayor Richard Cohen.

Following the ceremony, various military bands will perform on the main stage. Guest speakers will address the attendees throughout the day. Scheduled speakers will include Richard (Mustang) H. Spicer, retired lieutenant colonel of the U.S. Army, author and veteran of the Vietnam era, and combat veteran of Operation Desert Storm; and retired Colonel Joyce C. Humphrey of the U.S. Army, author and veteran of Operation Desert Storm.

Grammy Award winner and multi-platinum entertainer Lee Greenwood, who will perform on the Main Stage at 7:00 p.m., will headline the day. Lee is most famous for his beloved patriotic song "God Bless the U.S.A.," which has become a major national sentiment during recent world crises.

Various fundraising events will take place throughout the day, including a portion of all admission tickets either purchased or redeemed the day of the event. A portion of the proceeds will go toward a scholarship for the children of military personnel. Other fundraising events that will take place that day include the sale of MRE (meals ready to eat), which have been popular since the recent war. Proceeds from the sale of MRE will also go to the scholarship fund.

Admission to "Military Appreciation Day" and the concert by Lee Greenwood are FREE with theme park admission, and FREE to all Season Pass holders. Discount tickets are also available at www.sixflags.com.

Six Flags Season Passes are currently on sale for just \$59.99 (when purchasing four or more) or \$64.99 (when purchasing three or less), now through June 22nd. Season Passes may be purchased on-line at sixflags.com, at any Big Y World Class Market, or at the Park during regular operating hours.

Regular admission to Six Flags New England is \$39.99 for guests who are 54" in height and over; \$24.99 for guests under 54" in height; and free for anyone under 36" in height. Advance Sale General Admission tickets are also available at Big Y World Class Markets for only \$27.99.

A special discounted ticket for all military personnel is available at military bases throughout New England. For more information, call 786-9300, ext.

SEE SIX FLAGS - Page 25

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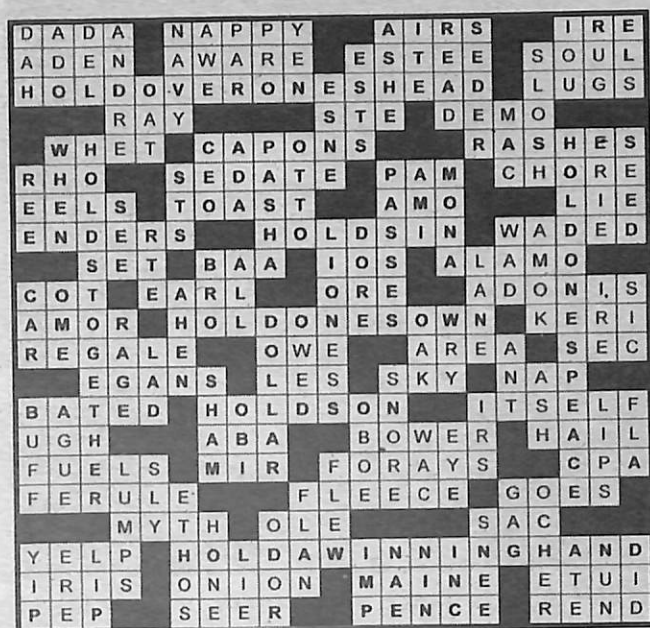
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Last Week's Solution...

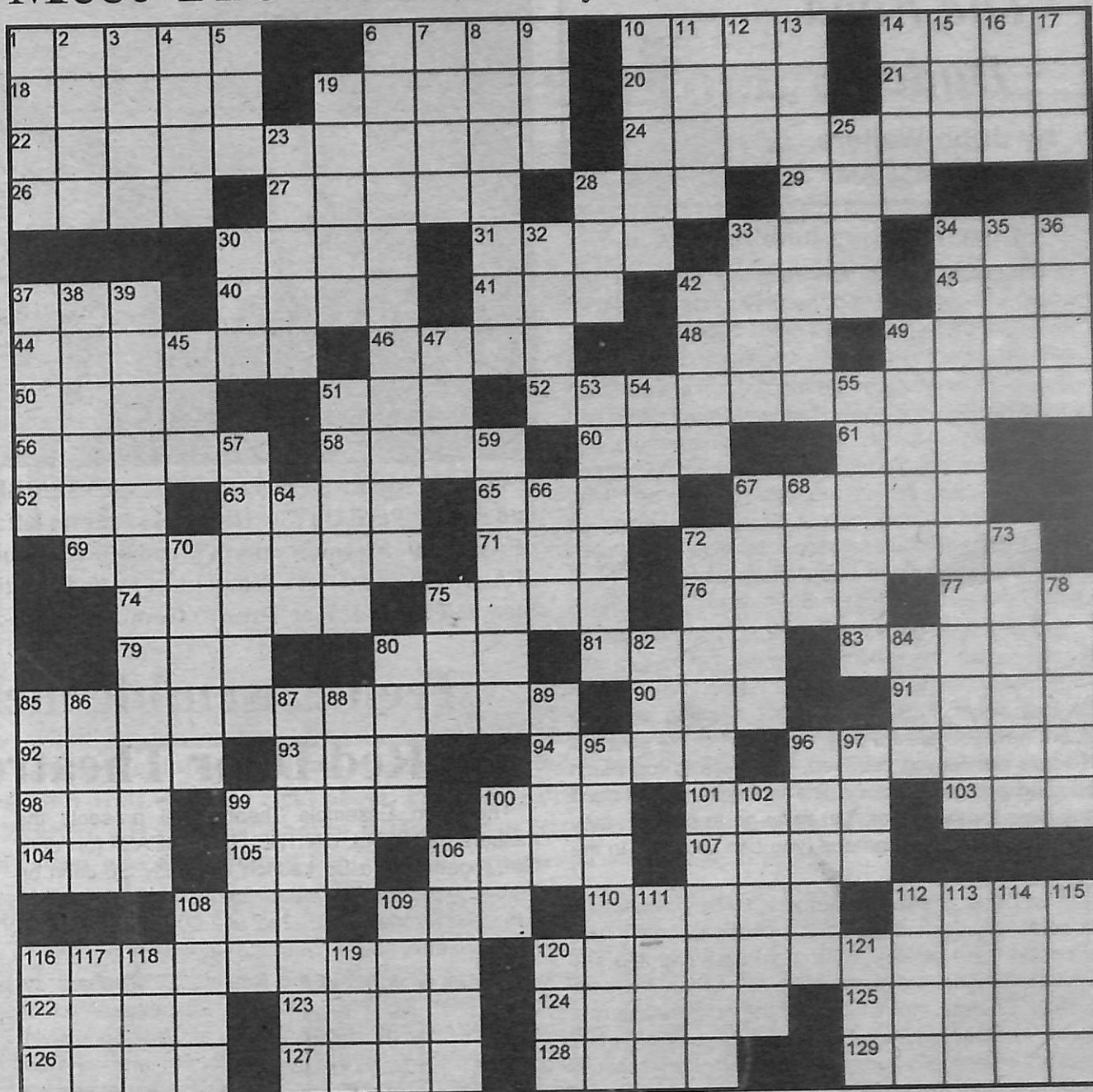


ACROSS

- 1 Rhymer
6 "Pretty Woman" star
10 Melville's whaling captain
14 Challenge
18 Slow in music
19 Has weapons
20 Cancellation words (slang)
21 "'A' ___ apple"
22 Meat for paddies
24 Spring indicator
26 Landers and Miller
27 Entertain
28 Oolong
29 Formerly named
30 Agent Bond's school
31 Whimper
33 Emote
34 Acquire
37 Playwright's delight
40 Goody two-shoes
41 Prince Valiant's son
42 Speaker of baseball
43 "Norma ___"
44 Ten-dollar bill (slang)
46 Soda
48 Biddy
49 Dullard
50 Football officials
51 "___, skip, and jump"
52 Retreats
56 Korean
58 Actress Gardner et al
60 Napoleonic Marshall
61 Charged particle
62 "___ diem"
63 Bone (prefix)
65 Sway

- 67 What gents prefer
69 Stifle
71 Summer cooler
72 Ransackers
74 Tableware
75 Louvre
76 French river
77 Elver
79 Ritual (abbr.)
80 King (Fr.)
81 Fair to middlin'
83 "Al ___" (cooking instruction)
85 Swimming pool type
90 QB Dawson
91 Scatster James
92 Paste
93 Knock off
94 Lyrical poems
96 Mill products
98 Stimp's pal
99 Level to the ground
100 Brew
101 Equipment
103 Macerate
104 Total
105 Single
106 Make a movie
107 Merit
108 Nasty
109 Stray
110 Love to Lanza
112 Swedish rock group
116 Ship's fee in port
120 Baseball play
122 Algerian port
123 Opera solo
124 William and Sean
125 Waltz in Paris
126 Lahr in "Oz"
127 Office furniture
128 Town (Dutch)

Meet The Master - by Dick Mastroianni...



DOWN

- 1 Korbut in the gym
2 Actress Laura
3 Privy to
4 Irwin and Symington
5 Two-thousand pounds
6 Wild grasses
7 Non-fliers in Australia
8 Newspaper plus
9 Ed (var.)
10 Holy messenger
11 Sabra's dance
12 In the past
13 "A ___ baby boy"
14 Miami's county
15 Fire remains
16 Rio de Janeiro
17 English (abbr.)
19 Protective covering
23 Office stamp
25 Fish catchers
28 Container
30 Compass point
32 "Limp as ___"
33 Greek god of war
34 Man who builds on another's land
35 Make
36 "___ off" (golf start)
37 Lash
38 Pee Wee and Della
39 Certain of his opinion
42 Those people
45 CIA cousin
47 WWII pricing agency
49 Singer Pat
51 Abhors
53 Recesses
54 Ex-serviceman
55 Went crazy
57 Mark down
59 Famous Russian ruler
64 Hushing sounds
66 Actress Lupino
67 Element
68 Chaney
70 "___ Oyl" (Popeye's girlfriend)
72 Falls behind
73 Be a pioneer
75 Old French coin
78 Smallest amount
80 Gown
82 Bullring cheer
84 Wide shoe size
85 Taj locale
86 Lost color
87 Gramps
88 Throned flower
89 Child's toy
95 Golfer Jimmy
96 Gorged
97 Three in Turin
99 Reddish brown horse
100 Sky
102 Nets
106 "A ___ of nature"
108 Baseball's short hit
109 Aegis
111 "___ Lisa"
112 Sixth month (Jewish calendar)
113 Knife
114 Kiss
115 "Suit to ___"
116 Sailor
117 Rolling stock
118 Scull
119 Is
120 Certain doctors
121 First woman

SIX FLAGS - from Page 24

3525.

Six Flags is open daily and offers a full line-up of special events, live music, and fun for the entire family. Six Flags' newly expanded water park, Hurricane Harbor, is now open with 10 new water attractions. What's more, "Kids Fest" will take place June 21st and 22nd, featuring SpongeBob SquarePants and The Wild Thornberries.

For full event listings and more information on special events, go to www.sixflags.com or call 786-9300.

Six Flags, Inc. is the world's largest regional theme park company. Through its subsidiaries, it owns and operates a total of 39 parks in North America and Europe. Six Flags parks serve 35 of the 50 largest metropolitan areas in the United States.

Six Flags, Inc. is a publicly held corporation with corporate offices in New York City and Oklahoma City. The company's stock trades on the NYSE under the symbol: PKS.

- ADVERTISER NEWS -

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Rhubarb,
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Lettuce

"The Food Dude"

by John Walters
WMAS 1450 AM



Taste-tempting hamburgers ...

Graduation parties are reigning supreme this month, and depending on the unpredictable weather conditions, these parties will entail outdoor cookouts. Cookouts ... what would they be without burgers?

I remember sitting at the lunch counter years ago at the State Bowling Alley, staring at Paula Fortin and having a pepper burger; this is a hamburger that has green bell pepper ground in with the meat. Mr. Green would give lessons on the pool tables, and Mrs. Green would be handing out shoes and setting up lanes. The taste of those pepper burgers is still available; they make them fresh every day at 90 Meat Outlet on Avocado Street in Springfield.

So, when you put out that spread, it should feature regular hamburgs, pepper burgers, hot dogs, cole slaw, potato salad, iced tea, and Jello with the fruit cocktail mixed in. Notice I didn't mention anything about how you need a beg. I know all of my younger readers are feeling betrayed, but there is too much boozing going on. Draw a line in the sand and don't buy beer for these kids. Let them go to college; they will find the beer on campus (you can take that to the bank).

If you want really good burgers, try this recipe. Mix in some Worcestershire sauce, chopped onion, and chopped fresh parsley. Try to hold back with the salt until the burgers are cooked; the salt (when the meat is raw) will draw moisture out of the burgers and ruin them. Another restaurant that is long gone is Pete's Hickory Hearth. His burgers were not hickory-cooked, but I just liked the place and the burgers were good. Another favorite of mine was Abdo's Big Boy Restaurants with their car hops and really good double burgers.

Speaking of double burgers, you can try and make them yourself. You just need to buy the smaller and thinner patties and use two on a bun. Also, use a cup and cut the center out of a slice of white bread to go in the middle. To seasoned salt, add some tumeric and a bit of curry powder; just a little of these two spices will add some mystery to your season mix.

The sauce is fairly easy - add a little pre-made Hollandaise to jarred Thousand Island dressing (just a bit so you mask and don't change the flavor).

A different tasting burger is a steamed hamburger. The only place I know of that makes this is Green's on Page Boulevard in Springfield. Stop in a try a steamed burger and some hand-cut fries.

Last but certainly not least, if you are on the "burger quest" this summer, a trip is needed to the Country Diner on Hazard Avenue (Route 190) in Enfield, Connecticut. There, you will be able to purchase a buffalo burger. Yeah, it's made with real buffalo meat ... namely, Canadian bison meat. No hormones, no medicines - just all-natural buffalo burgers.

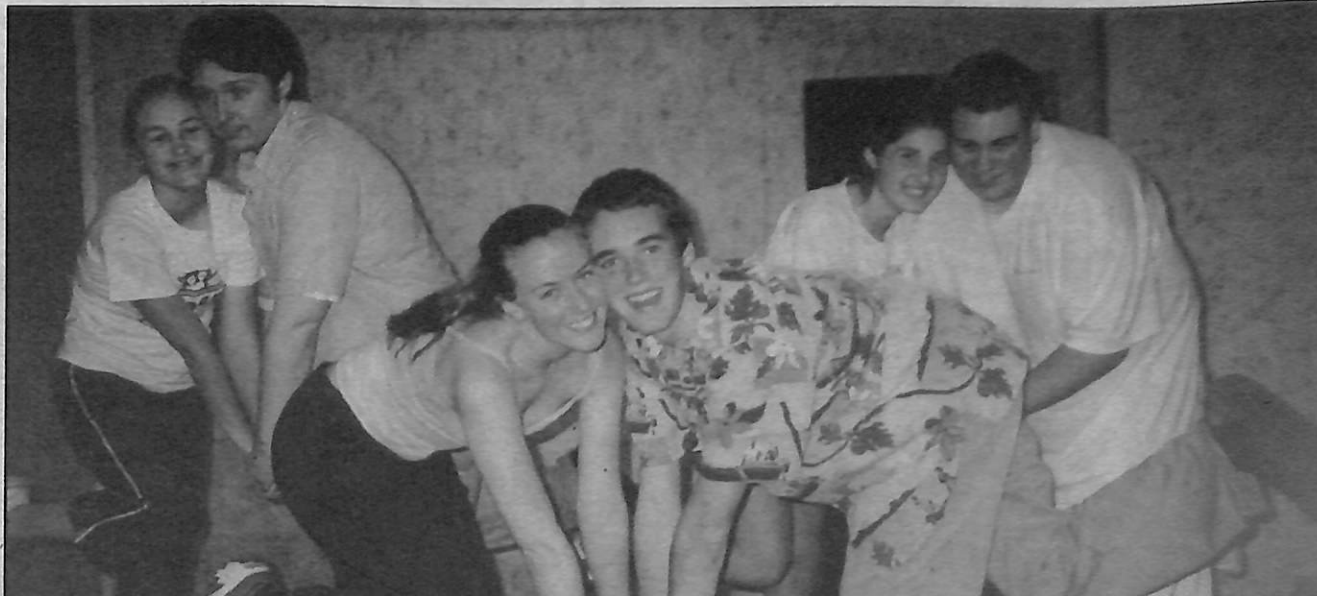
So, have a great summer and have a burger for me. I like them medium rare with sliced sweet onion, horseradish, pickles, a little mayo, and topped off with some sizzled-on-the-grill, very thinly sliced ham. Ooooh, now that's a burger! I just had one at Antonio's on State Street in Springfield.

Remember, listen to the "Food Dude" - it is not what you're eating that's most important ... it is whom you're dining with!

Be sure to listen to my radio show every Saturday on WMAS AM 1450 from 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m. And, by all means pay a visit to my website - www.foodduderadio.com - for more recipes; while you're there, make sure you visit the restaurant guide.



JOHN
WALTERS'
radio show
can be heard
each Saturday
from 12:00
noon to 2:00
p.m. on WMAS
1450 AM...



CAST MEMBERS OF THE TEEN ENSEMBLE THEATRE dance up a storm in their latest endeavor, "Peril On The High Seas." From left: Jaime Pearsons of Suffield and Chris de Jongh of Agawam, Megan Banks of Granville and Doug Duquette of Longmeadow, and Katie Forbes of Agawam and Tylers Pearsons of Suffield do the Charleston in this comical melodrama scheduled at The Red Door Theatre from June 20th-22nd.

Teen Ensemble melodrama coming to Red Door Theatre in Feeding Hills

The Teen Ensemble Theatre will presents the melodrama "PERIL ON THE HIGH SEAS" (or "Let's Get Together And Do Launch") by Billy St. John on Friday and Saturday, June 20th and 21st, at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, June 22nd, at 2:00 p.m. at The Red Door Theatre, 152 S. Westfield St., Feeding Hills.

The story is set in the Roaring 20's aboard the cruise liner, the H.M.S. Majestic. Passengers include ARACNIA WEBB (Nicole Warren of West Springfield) and SNIVELY SWINE (John Albano, also of West Springfield), two cunning villains who are attempting to kidnap naive heiress MERRY ANN SWEET (Kati Lewantowicz of Southampton).

Their attempts are thwarted by her AUNT BEA GOODE (Kendall Hill of Feeding Hills); SGT. WILLY KETCHUM (Chris de Jongh of Agawam) and his wife, WANDA KETCHUM (Amy McMenamin of South Hadley); three flappers - MITZY (Jaime Pearsons of Suffield), RITZY (Megan Banks of Granville), and DITZY (Katie Forbes of Agawam); the gossip colum-

nist HEDDA HOOPER (Melanie Romano of Suffield); film actress MARY PICKAXE (Emily Wundt of Southwick); and the crew - CAPTAIN BARNEY KUHL (Brock Campbell of Springfield), entertainment director SKEET SUITOR (Tyler Pearsons of Suffield), and the hero, waiter CARY DE MILLE (Doug Duquette of Longmeadow).

The fun begins as the passengers board for a cruise to London, England.

The audience will be treated to the delights of the melodrama style by being encouraged to hiss and boo the villains, cheer the hero, and generally partake in the fun. The evening includes a mini-vaudevilian show with songs, jokes, and dances of the 1920's era.

Tickets are \$8 for adults, and \$6 for seniors and students. Seating is reserved and limited in this intimate theatre, which is located approximately 15 minutes from Springfield, Westfield, and Suffield.

For reservations, please call (413) 789-2026.

At AHS auditorium...

Agawam Senior Center's Memory Lane Chorus to perform at Flag Day Concert



The Memory Lane Chorus of the Agawam Senior Center will present a number of "flag songs" as part of the Flag Day Concert at the Agawam High School auditorium on Saturday, June 14th, at 7:00

p.m.

The songs will include "Old Glory Goes Marching On," written in 1918 by Paul Armstrong (lyrics) and Henri Klickmann (music). The sheet music cover has a spectacular picture of 10,000 American sailors in the formation of an American flag on the grounds of the United States Naval Training Station at Great Lakes, Illinois.

Following plans carefully worked out in advance, the formation occupied about one half-hour before the grouping was in the proper proportions to be photographed to best advantage. This accuracy was affected by long, thin lines of white tape having been previously laid on the ground to indicate the outlines of the stars, stripes, poles, etc.

In the white ball at the end of the pole are 250 men. The diameter of this white ball was 237 feet.

The length of the pole (not including the ball) was 550 feet. Its width at the bottom was four feet, while (owing to the laws of perspective) its width at the top

was six feet. It required 700 men to form it.

The length of the flag at the top was 293 feet, and at the bottom, 73 feet. The width of the left end was 428 feet, while at the right end it was only 128 feet.

The star field measured 143 feet at the top, 66 feet at the bottom, 350 feet at the left end, and 184 feet at the right end. It took 1,600 men for the white stripes, 1,900 men for the red stripes, 1,800 men for the stars, and about 3,400 men for the blue field.

Other songs by the Chorus will include "Thank Your Lucky Stars and Stripes," "Old Glory," "I Need America," "This Is A Great Country," "You're A Grand Old Flag," and "Your Land And My Land."

The concert is free, and also taking part in the production will be the host Marksmen Alumni Drum and Bugle Corps, the Targets Drum and Bugle Corps, and the Sacred Heart Band, along with Color Guards from the Agawam American Legion Post 185 and the Vietnam Veterans' Color Guard Chapter 111 from Chicopee.

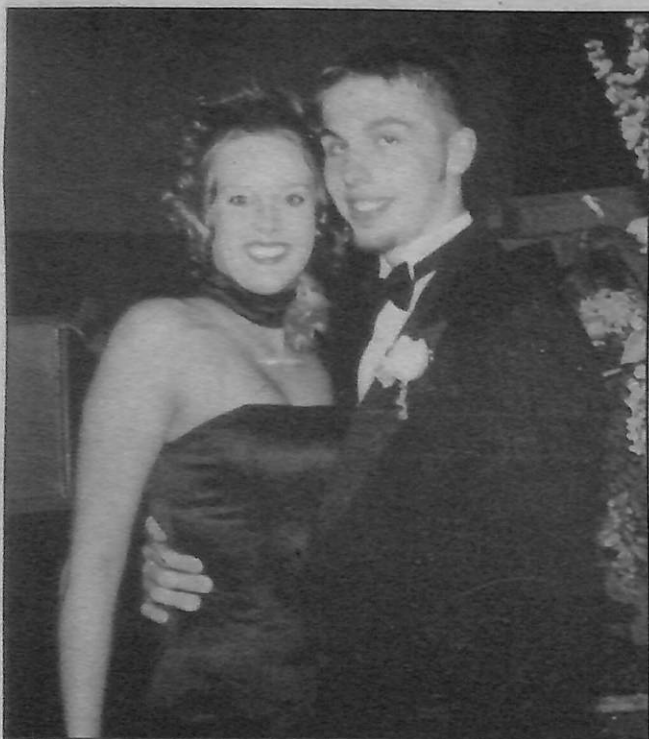
The Marksmen will also present a look back into the early eras of drum and bugle corps that used bugles without any valves (the 1920s and 1930s), bugles with one valve (the 1940s), and bugles with two valves (the 1950s), in addition to their regular repertoire of music with three-valve bugles arranged for nine parts.

The program will open with the presentation of the massed Color Guards and will close with all of the service flags entering to their song, with a finale of "America The Beautiful" and "I Believe."



Education

“Time Of Your Life” for 2003 AHS promgoers...



THE 2003 EDITION of Agawam High School's Annual Junior/Senior Prom was held at Chez Josef on Tuesday, June 3rd. In left photo: Alicia Linder, the 2003 Agawam St. Patrick's Colleen, with Matt Reed. In right photo: Promgoers don't mind mingling with chaperones and invited guests. From left: Guidance counselor Frank Meagher, AHS student Andrew Pevlin, Mayor Richard Cohen, Agawam School Committee member Susan Pettazzoni, guidance counselor Alan Cohen, and AHS student Jay Callahan. Advertiser News photos by Kathy Shepard.

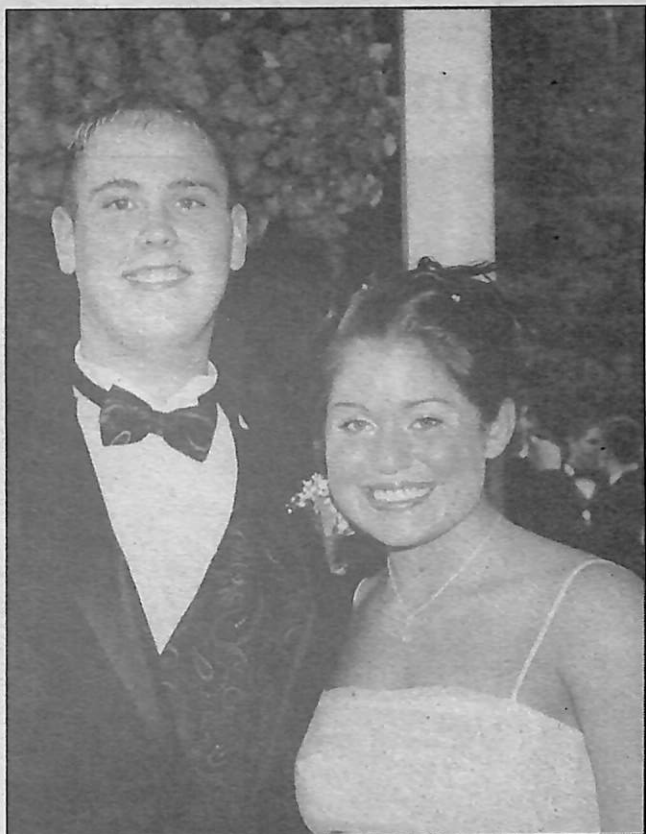


THE THEME OF AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL'S 2003 Junior/Senior Prom was “Time Of Your Life.” From left: Kaitlin Sardella, Cristen Sacco, Danielle Cirillo, Becky Carey, Alex Simmons, Allie Morris, Emily Lapins, Jill Nunziato, Meaghan Brown, Linda Kelley, Julie Pontz, Christin Cilimberg, Salema Sekkal, and Lindsay Carey. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.

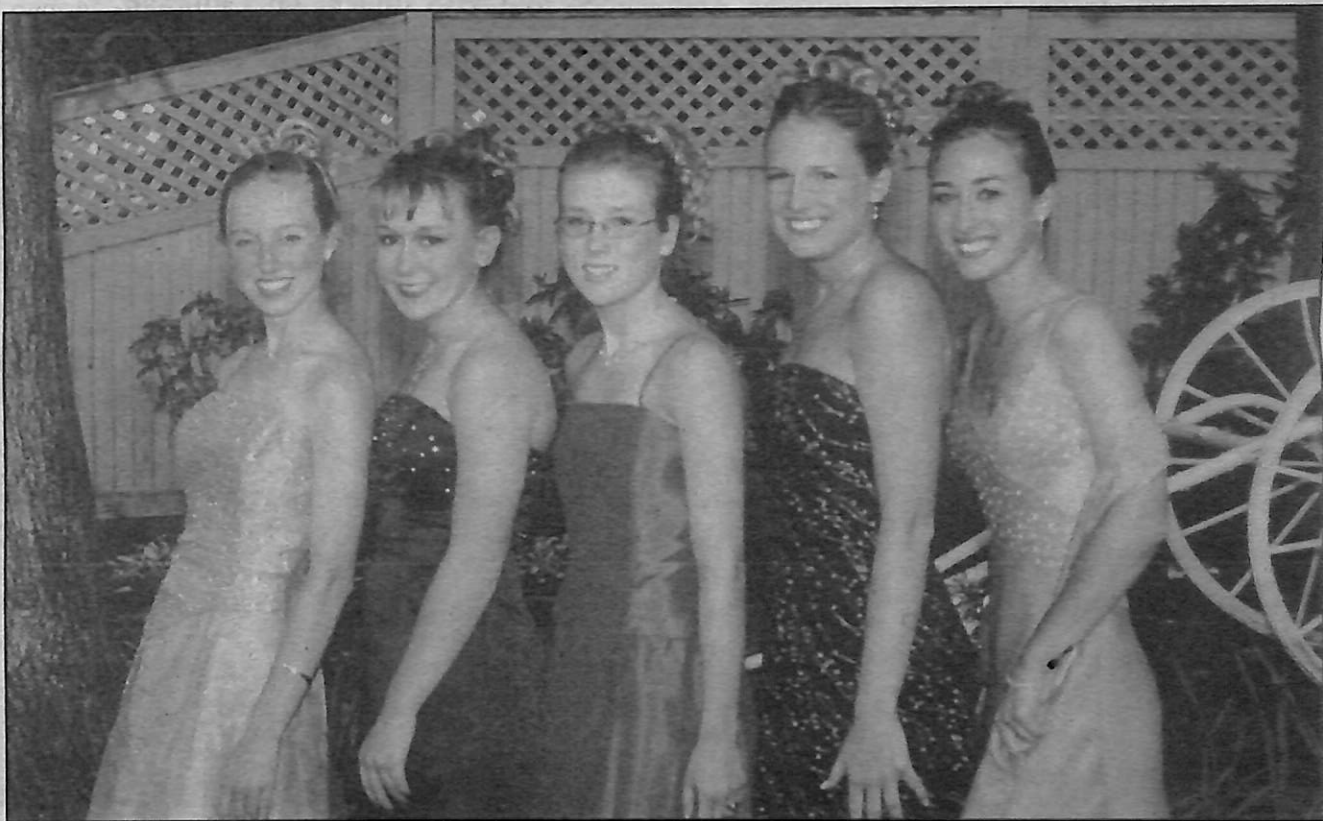


WHO SAYS YOU NEED TO TAKE A LIMOUSINE TO THE PROM??? Enjoying their horse-and-buggy ride to Chez Josef are (clockwise from left) Jessica Ferreira, Tim Sideris, Brandon Igo, and Stephanie Bradford. Driving the buggy is Emily Westbrook, and her four-legged co-worker is “Dutchess” from Freedom Farm in Springfield. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.

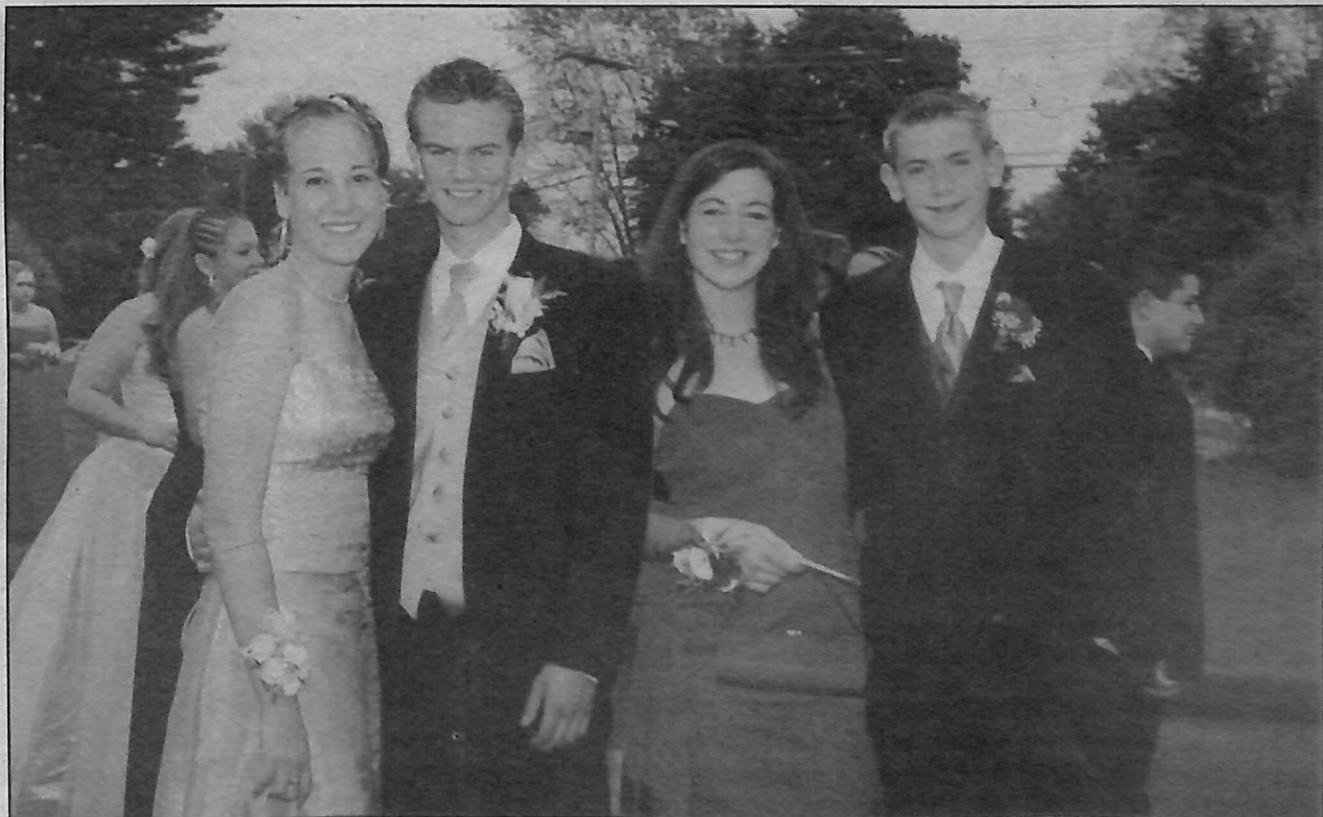
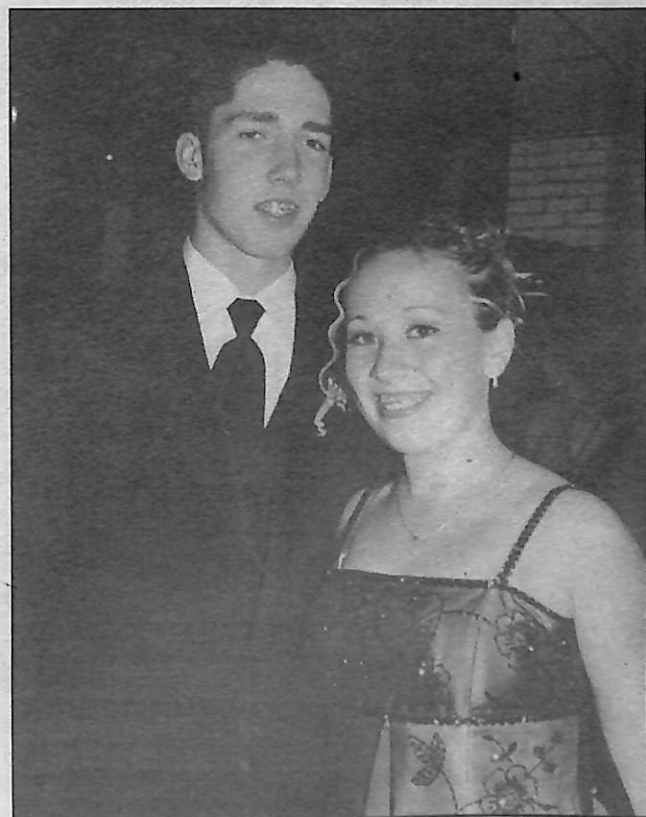
Agawam High School's "Prom 2003"...



AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL'S Annual Junior/Senior Prom is one of those milestones which students look forward to during their high school careers. In left photo: Joe Kocot and Andrea Greaney. In right photo: Waiting at the entrance to Chez Josef; back row - Josh O'Neill, Kelly Curry, Stacy Boisjolie, Robert Fitzpatrick, Kelly Doyle, Alex Clark, Allisa Siedlik, Tony Bosini, Jocelynn Kraus, and Nick Balboni; front row - Adam Garvey and Malinda Govoni. Advertiser News photos by Kathy Shepard.

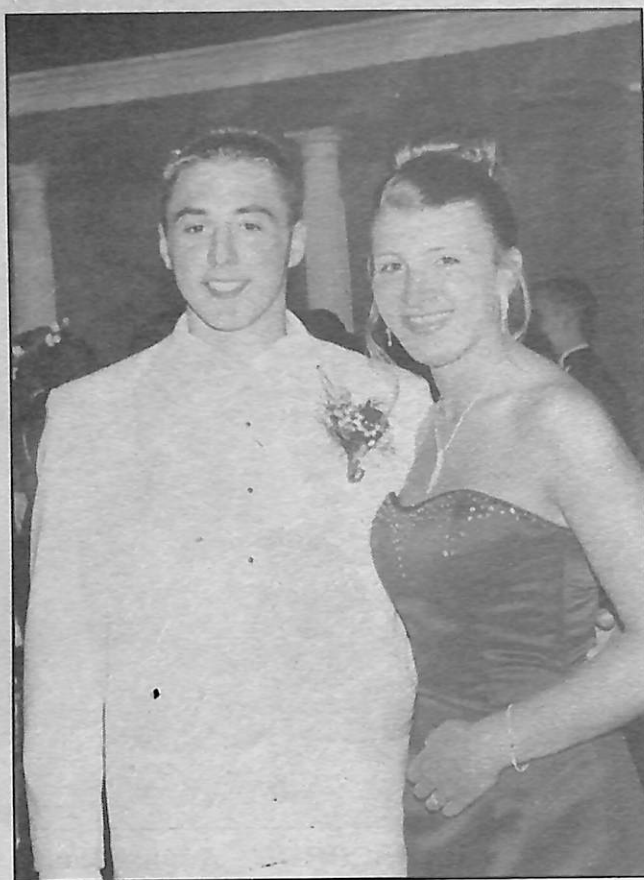


In left photo: Stella Knapik and William Couture share a quiet moment outside of Chez Josef. In right photo: Annie Zaffetti, Erica Dominguez, Katie Knodler, Kait Gallagher, and Tami Burmeister. Advertiser News photos by Kathy Shepard.



In left photo: Nick Pandolfi and Katelyn LaValley take a moment during the exciting 2003 Junior/Senior Prom to pose for our camera. In right photo: Amanda Hamel, Aaron Sundberg, Amy Lownds, and James Dietz. Advertiser News photos by Kathy Shepard.

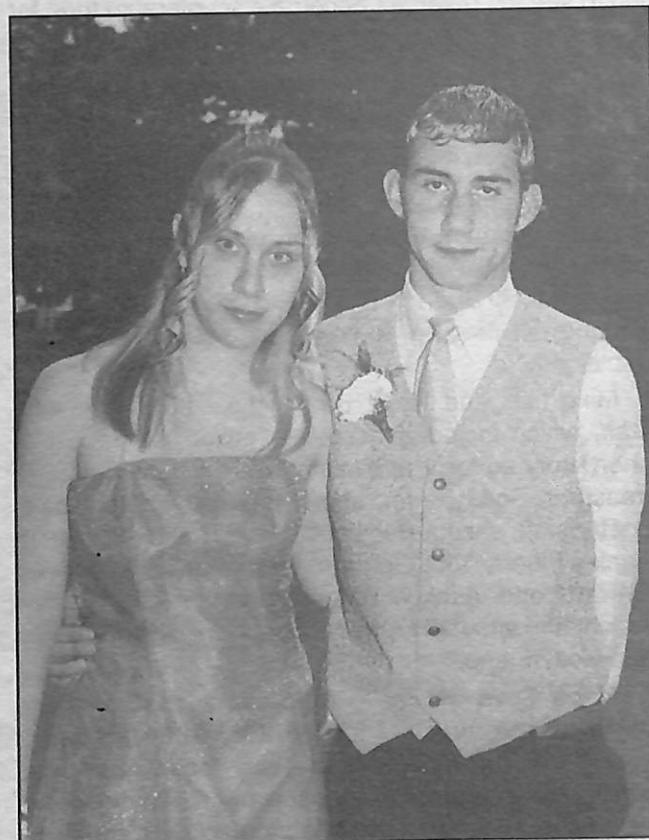
Agawam High School's "Prom 2003"...



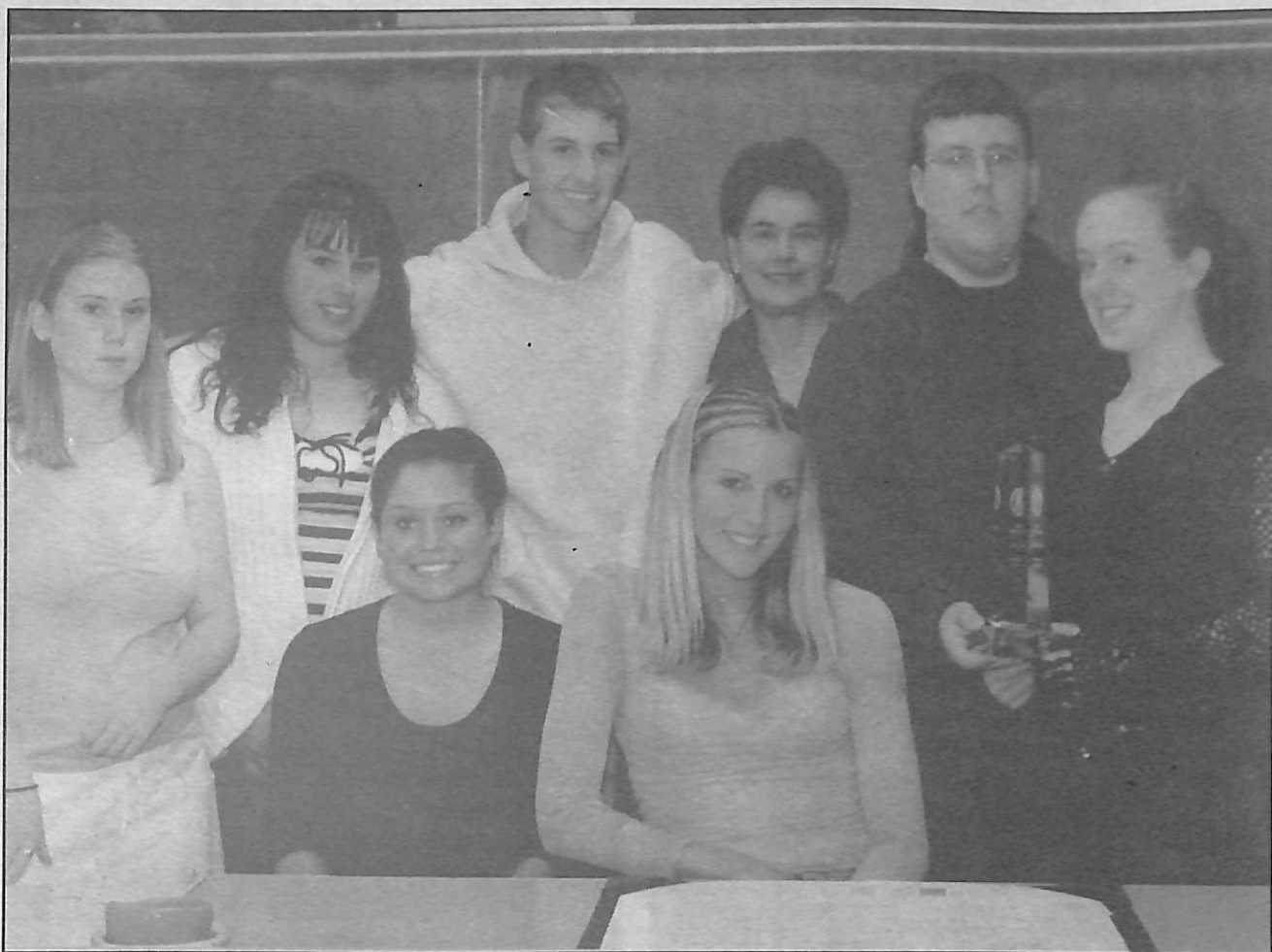
THE ANNUAL JUNIOR/SENIOR PROM makes for memories that will last a lifetime. In left photo: Tim Kendrick, Nina Murray, Desiree Saloio, Ben Sunny, Sarah Bonini, and Joel Howe. In right photo: Chris Holl and Ashley Marek. Advertiser News photos by Kathy Shepard.



In left photo: Enjoying themselves at Chez Josef are (from left) Billy Dangleis, Ashley Boyle, Tracy Jensen, Bruce LeClair, Ashley Brodeur, and Michael Minahan. In right photo: Lauren Viscito and Eric Harris. Advertiser News photos by Kathy Shepard.



"SAY ... 'CHEESE'!!!" In left photo: Neil Donah, Jessica Tully, Rielly Longtin, Katherine Bitzas, Ryan Moquin, Erica Kelley, Alex Simmons, and Jamie Del Peschio. In right photo: Jennifer Castle and Joel Tetreault. Advertiser News photos by Kathy Shepard.



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE STAFF of the Uniqorn, Agawam High School's Literary Magazine which won first place in the magazines category at American International College's 33rd Annual Scholastic Press Awards. Back row: Alycia Cove, associate editor; Alicia Holl and Tom Gorman, poetry staff; Sandra Hines, faculty advisor; David Duplessis, short story staff; and Holly Stano, art staff. Front row: Andrea Greaney, poetry editor, and Katie Baum, co-editor. Advertiser News photo by Kathy Shepard.

Uniqorn takes honor at 33rd Annual Scholastic Press Awards

by Kathy Shepard
Feature Editor

American International College was the site of the recent 33rd Annual Scholastic Press Awards, and the Uniqorn, Agawam High School's Literary Magazine, won first place in the magazines category. The Co-Editors-in-Chief of the Uniqorn's 20th Anniversary Edition, seniors Catherine Baum and Michael Lalli, praised Sandra Hines (Uniqorn Advisor) for her consistent dedication to the publication after the retirement of longtime advisor Larry O'Brien. Thanks also went to John Korbut for printing the 300 copies of the magazine.

There is still time to make donations to the Uniqorn by sending checks payable to Agawam Uniqorn, c/o Kathleen Baker at the Agawam Superintendent of Schools office at the Agawam Junior High School on Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA 01030. "I'm hoping to see the reserves become a scholarship fund for graduating seniors in the future," Mrs. Hines told *The Advertiser News*.

"I inherited the group when Mr. O'Brien retired. It seemed logical for me to take on the responsibilities of advising the Uniqorn because I have a poetry group every other Wednesday at 1:50 p.m., the Intergenerational Poetry Group. I inherited Katie Baum and Mike Lalli (they were chosen last year before Mr. O'Brien retired). I chose senior Andrea Greaney, inviting her to be poetry editor," Mrs. Hines explained.

Mike Lalli and Katie Baum chose the remaining staff, which includes associate editor, Alycia Cove; short story editor, Pat Walsh; art editor, Liz Couture; treasurer, Chris Baum; short story, David Duplessis; poetry staff, Jacqui Perreault, Alicia Holl, Rita Martin, Ashley Pitters, Tom Gorman, Kevin Pender, Courtney Garrett, and Ashley Richards; cover art, Nathan Krach; and art, Joel Howe, Lina Moysis, Kyle Sullivan, and Holly Stano.

Alycia Cove will move from this year's associate editor to editor-in-chief for the 2003-2004 academic year. "Alycia got involved in every facet," said Mrs. Hines. Alycia added, "Our goal is to get out issues for next fall, winter, and spring in order to build up financial reserves. We will also plan some fundraisers in the next three years."

Outgoing senior Katie Baum said, "Last year, I was associate editor and this year, I am co-editor-in-chief. It was an incredible feeling hearing that Agawam High School won the award. Mike Lalli and I were present at the event and it was great. It was a great way to end my senior year and a good way to look back on my high school years. It was very satisfying. Everyone on our staff deserves credit, and Mrs. Hines has been incredible."

Baum continued, "We also want to recognize Mr. Larry O'Brien, who started the Uniqorn and was advisor for 19 years. He also inspired me as advisor for the *Mirror*, Quill & Scroll, Shakespeare Club, as well as the Uniqorn."

Student David Duplessis told us, "I'm very lucky to work in a group like this. It's therapeutic. You can go to the group, share stories, literary works, poems, values, and thoughts. It's a great way to exchange ideas. I wish there were more literary works and short stories for kids. It's a challenging feat to write a short story."

Mrs. Hines also wanted to thank faculty member Linda Abel, advisor to the Agawam High School *Mirror*. "She shared the day with us, for the *Mirror* won third place for newspaper design at the 33rd Annual Scholastic Press Awards. Mrs. Abel was proud of the Uniqorn group, and she was also proud of Katie Baum, who is a writer for the *Mirror*. Linda really shares with me and she is happy for other colleagues and is a strong advocate for the students."

Mrs. Hines added, "I am learning from these kids. When we're in this group, we are one unit. I think it's important to acknowledge that we won first place in our category against schools with budgets as high as \$5,000! We started last fall on a budget of \$13.20! A recent sale resulted in \$172, so our entire operating budget totaled \$185.00. The paper was donated by the Superintendent's Office, and Mr. Korbut in the printing office was kind enough to print the copies for us. Our staff stapled the books together, 309 pages of personal reflection and pensive poetry."

From the original 309 books, many were sold or given away. The class made the books available at Awards Night for \$2 each. Any left over can be purchased by contacting Mrs. Hines.

Agawam Schools' weekly lunch menu

Agawam High School

Mon., 6/16: "Manager's Choice" (last meal of the school year).

Tues. - Thurs., 6/17 - 6/19: Senior High final exams.

Fri., 6/20: Senior High make-up final exams.

Mon., 6/23: Last official day of school / Senior High make-up final exams.

Agawam Junior High School

Mon., 6/16: Five mozzarella sticks w/marinara sauce, warm dinner roll, seasoned corn, assorted chilled fruit, pudding w/topping.

Tues., 6/17: Buttered rotini w/meat sauce on the side, slice of bread w/butter, vegetable of the day, assorted chilled fruit, Otis Spunkmeyer cookie.

Wed., 6/18: Five French toast sticks w/syrup for dipping, two baked sausage links, baked potato rounds, assorted chilled fruit, fruit crisp w/topping.

Thurs., 6/19: Eighth-grade picnic - hot dog on a roll w/condiments, individual Lays chips, vegetable pasta salad, fresh slice of watermelon, school-baked brownie.

Fri., 6/20: "Gilardi's" stuffed crust pizza, salad w/lite dressing, assorted chilled fruit, school-baked cookie.

Mon., 6/23: Last day of school / half-day (lunch will not be served).

Agawam Middle School

Mon., 6/16: Five mozzarella sticks w/marinara sauce, warm dinner roll, seasoned corn, assorted chilled fruit, pudding w/topping.

Wed., 6/17: Five French toast sticks w/syrup for dipping, one baked sausage link, baked potato rounds, assorted chilled fruit, Jello w/topping.

Tues., 6/18: Buttered rotini w/meat sauce on the side, slice of bread w/butter, vegetable of the day, assorted chilled fruit, dessert of the day.

Thurs., 6/19: "Gilardi's" stuffed crust pizza, salad w/lite dressing, assorted chilled fruit, school-baked cookie.

Fri., 6/20: "Manager's Choice." (Don't worry - it will be good!)

Mon., 6/23: Last day of school / half-day (lunch will not be served).

Agawam Elementary Schools

Mon., 6/16: Five mozzarella sticks w/marinara sauce, warm dinner roll, seasoned corn, assorted chilled fruit, pudding w/topping.

Wed., 6/17: Five French toast sticks w/syrup for dipping, one baked sausage link, baked potato rounds, assorted chilled fruit, Jello w/topping.

Tues., 6/18: Buttered rotini w/meat sauce on the side, slice of bread w/butter, vegetable of the day, assorted chilled fruit, dessert of the day.

Thurs., 6/19: "Gilardi's" sliced pizza wedge, salad w/lite dressing, assorted chilled fruit, school-baked cookie.

Fri., 6/20: "Manager's Choice." (Don't worry - it will be good!)

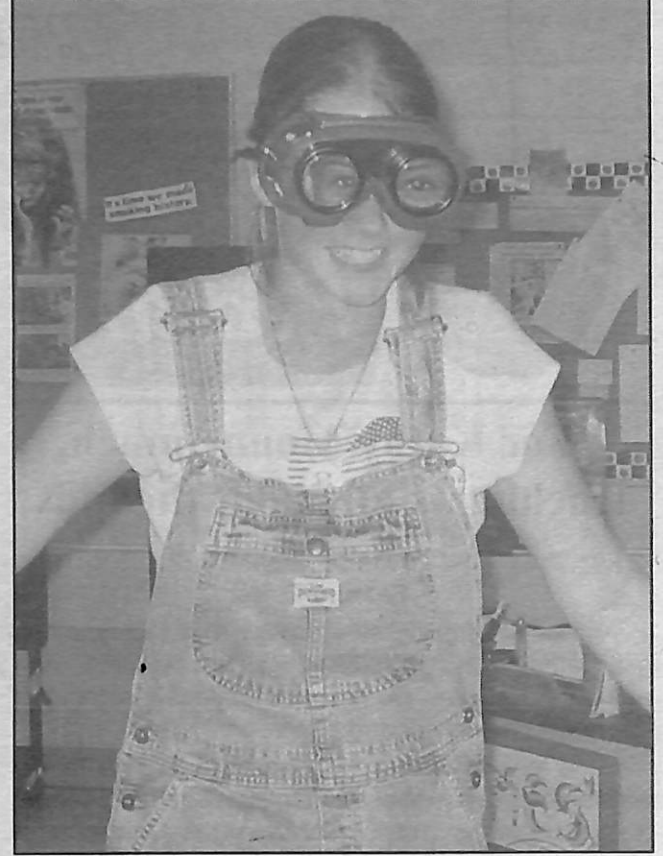
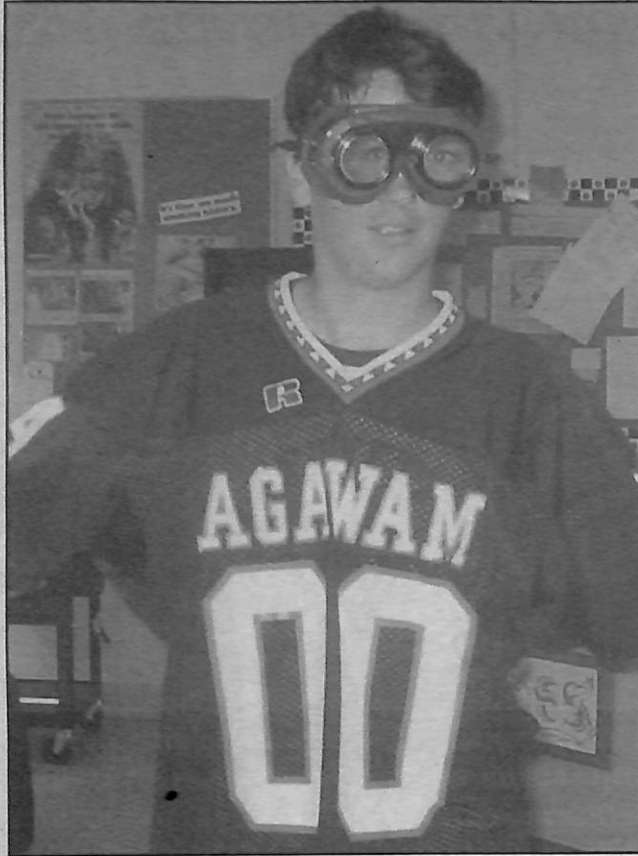
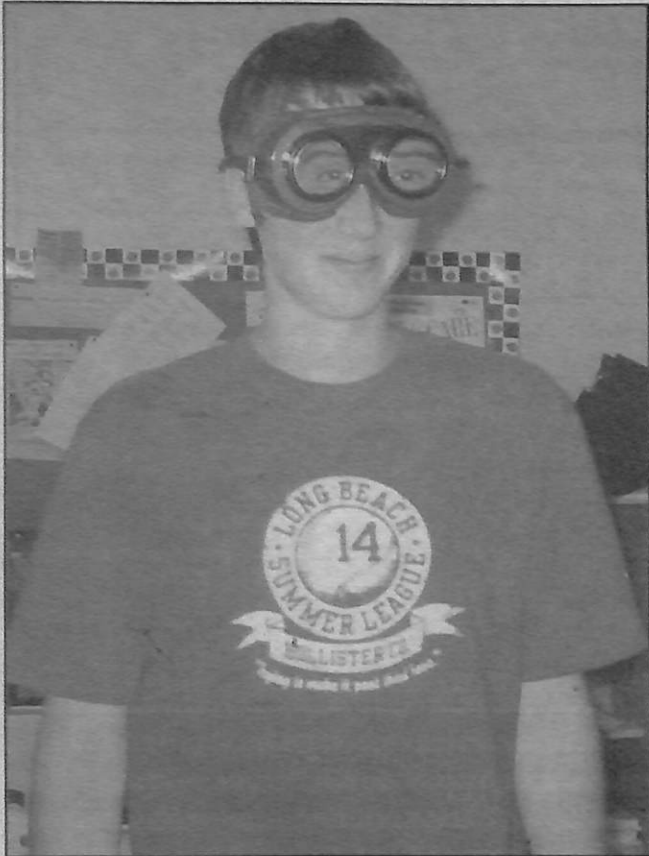
Mon., 6/23: Last day of school / half-day (lunch will not be served).

Granger School PTO to hold can and bottle drive

The Granger School PTO will hold a can and bottle drive from June 15th-June 22nd at C&B Redemption on Springfield Street (across from Taylor Rental).

Donate your recyclable cans and bottles. C&B is open daily from 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. and from 12:00 noon-6:00 p.m. on Wednesdays.

Learning what it's like "under the influence"...



AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL students in Catherine Gomes' health classes experienced the effects of alcohol recently through the use of "DWEye" goggles. These goggles are designed to graphically demonstrate to students how much drinking affects their perceptions. Students saw that objects were blurred, lines were bent, and simple tasks became difficult. While wearing these goggles, they tried to perform such tasks as throwing a ball, walking a straight line, or steering an imaginary car. These activities reinforced the difficulty and danger of acting "under the influence." Pictured above are three of Mrs. Gomes' students who tried the "DWEye" goggles (from left): Nate Little, Bill Day, and Gina Gessay.

Justin Kratovil receives Hartwick College Award

Harwick College senior Justin D. Kratovil of Feeding Hills, son of Mark Kratovil and Rosemary Kratovil, has received the Beta Beta Beta Award in Biological Sciences at Hartwick.

The award is given for academic achievement and stimulation of interest in the biological sciences.

Kratovil is majoring in biology. At Hartwick, he has participated in the Big Brother/Big Sister Program, Outing Club, Student Union, H.O.P.E., Ski Club, Health Squad, Darkling Gaming Club, and Tri-Beta.

Hartwick College is an innovative, private, coeducational liberal arts and sciences institution of 1,400 students. The college is a leader in integrating advanced technology into the classroom, and among small colleges its study-abroad program is ranked fourth nationally in the percentage of students who study abroad. Hartwick is located in Oneonta, New York in the foothills of the Catskills.

Area students named to Dean's List at Fitchburg

Interim President Michael T. Rivard of Fitchburg State College has announced the names of area students included on the Dean's List for the spring semester.

A student is placed on the Dean's List for the semester is an average grade of 3.20 or better is attained, and the student is attending the college full-time.

Area students named to the list are Amy Richards of Agawam and Christine A. Gallant and Jennifer A. Pietroniro, both of Feeding Hills.

Fitchburg College enrolls 6,000 day and evening students in 20 academic majors. The college was established in 1894.

*For all the hometown news,
you turn our pages each
and every week ... AAN!!!*

Pioneer Valley Girl Scout day camps to be offered in Agawam

Day camps for all girls in kindergarten through grade 12 are being sponsored this summer by the Girl Scouts of Pioneer Valley at Robinson State Park in Agawam.

The weeklong camps, each with a different theme, are being held from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. the weeks of:

July 7th-11th - Red, White & Blue; July 14th-18th - A Royal Adventure; July 21st-25th - Beachcombers;

and July 22nd-26th - Hey, Einstein, Move Over.

Girls experience the fun, friendship, and power of girls together. Daily activities include swimming, crafts, songs, games, and much, much more. Costs of the camps vary between \$115 and \$140.

For more information, call 525-4124, 1-800-639-7047, or visit our website at www.gspv.org.

If you visit the Advertiser News' office at 23 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills (above Remillard Insurance), please note that our main entrance is in the back. Thank you...

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Love You/Miss You/ Get Well

Send one of our characters with a personalized message with flowers and/or balloons to your very special someone!



We are proud to be a family owned business!

BABY

Know someone who is having a baby shower? Make her shower a memorable one by sending your love and best wishes with some flowers and/or balloons hand delivered to her by our baby stork. Know someone who has just had a baby? We do hospital and home deliveries, too!

Wedding

Receptions

Sending one of our Characters to a wedding reception is a great way to personalize the special day. Ask about our different wedding ideas and reception services.

Retirements

Give a future retiree a chuckle and a Best Wishes Greeting with one of our Characters, balloons, and flowers.

Graduations

Send the Graduate balloons with their school colors and/or flowers with your congratulations delivered by one of our characters.

Other Services

We do appearances of different time lengths for Shows, Plays, Grand Openings, fairs, school functions, etc. Please ask us how we can help you fundraise for your organization with one or more of our characters.



“Teacher Feature” - sponsored by Giovanni's Italian Pastries...



For Kathy Mouneimneh, teaching is all about the kids

by Kathy Shepard
Feature Editor

Agawam High English teacher Kathy Mouneimneh graduated from Classical High School and then attended Holyoke Community College, earning a degree in early childhood education.

She took a year to work as an aide in a media reading program in West Springfield. She then earned a bachelor of arts in English from the University of Massachusetts with certification to teach by the time she graduated.

She met her husband, Gus, who was studying chemistry at UMass, and they were married by the beginning of Kathy's last semester. She then got a job teaching seventh grade English for the Agawam School System.

"We started our family when Gus graduated from the University of Massachusetts in 1978," she told us. "Gus started working in a material science lab. Our son, Zac, was born in 1978, our daughter, Leila, arrived in 1981, and our son, Adam, joined us in 1983."

When Adam was in second grade in September 1990, Kathy substitute taught in the Agawam Schools and was hired to work half-time in the Student Education Enrichment program (Project S.E.E.).

As a couple, Kathy and Gus were involved in getting the original Parent Teacher Organization off the ground and Gus was one of the first fathers to work at the Dad's Supper at Granger School. (This has since become so popular that it was first moved to the Agawam Junior High School cafeteria and from there to the Agawam High School cafeteria!)

A few weeks into the school year of 1995-1996, a position opened at the Junior High School for an eighth grade English teacher. Kathy applied, the position was offered to her, and she accepted.

The following year, Kathy moved into a position which had opened up at the High School. She has since taught ninth, 11th, and 12th grades, all in



KATHY MOUNEIMNEH

English. From 1996-1998, she taught ninth grade English and electives.

At first, these electives were a writing lab, developing composition, and individualized reading.

For three years, she taught 11th and ninth grade English without electives, and at the present (2002-2003), she is teaching ninth grade English and 12th grade Advanced Placement English. She served as senior class advisor for the class of 1997, as well, the same year that recently retired English teacher Larry O'Brien got her involved in the Shakespeare Society. It was also her son Zac's graduating class.

Kathy had been class advisor for the class of 2001. This was her son Adam's class. For the class of 1999, her daughter Leila's graduating class, she worked with Scott Trahan to coordinate the senior class Awards Night. This past Awards Night marked her fifth year of involvement.

Kathy turns up everywhere, it seems, at AHS. She has been co-advisor to the National Honor Society, co-advisor to the Shakespeare Society, advisor to student government, advisor/coach to Agawam's As School Match Wits team, and in the past, she has served as co-advisor to academic decathlon and one of the advisors for Renaissance.

For 10 years, since its inception, Kathy has served on the School Improvement Council, which meets

once a month. "Its purpose is to develop a plan to improve the quality of education at Agawam High School," she explained.

Kathy and her husband are extremely proud of their children. Zac graduated in 1997 and went on to Worcester Polytechnic Institute, graduating with distinction as a computer science major. He presently works as a computer programmer.

Leila graduated in May 2003 (with honors) and achieved the highest grade point average in her major in her class from Suffolk University in Boston, where she studied criminology. She will go to law school or graduate school for her master's or her doctorate and, meanwhile, she will work part-time in a law office in Boston.

Adam has completed his sophomore year at Bentley College in Waltham. He made Dean's List. His major is economics finance with a minor in law.

Kathy also pointed out that every one of her three offspring were in the National Honor Society.

"At graduation 2001, I felt like all the kids were my own," she told us, "because of my association with them as class advisor. This was a high point for me. I became very close to that class. They were wonderful and cooperative. At graduation, they gave me a standing ovation, which was very emotional. That's the only reward that matters. The work and time I put in is for the kids."

"I have always wanted to be a teacher," she said.

Gus added, "Even when she was raising our children, she longed to be in a classroom."

"TEACHER FEATURE" IS SPONSORED BY GIOVANNI'S ITALIAN PASTRIES, located at 719 Main Street, Agawam Center. Giovanni's has cakes for all occasions, including its famous rum, whipped cream Italian, ricotta, chocolate mousse, strawberry mousse, etc., as well as an endless variety of mouth-watering Italian pastries and cookies. What's more, they are now making homemade Italian bread. To order ahead, call 789-8900, or just stop in. Why not enjoy a flavored coffee or cappuccino in the Giovanni's Coffee Shop? Each "featured" teacher and his/her three guests are welcome to stop in at Giovanni's to enjoy a complimentary flavored coffee or cappuccino with a delicious pastry. Your hosts - the Russo Family ... Tony, Bruno, and Teresa.

Registration extended for Summer Math Program, "Camp C.L.I.M.B."

The Agawam Public School System is pleased to announce the third year of the Summer Math Program, "Camp C.L.I.M.B." This elementary math program will be conducted for any child who is currently enrolled in the Agawam Public Schools in grades four, five, and six.

Camp C.L.I.M.B. will feature "Cooperative Learning in Math Basics." This fun-filled summer math program will be an extension of our math curriculum and will reinforce those skills learned in the classroom. With partners and in teams, students will address topics in mathematics, calculations, and problem-solving in all strands of the Massachusetts Frameworks.

Week One will highlight "Geometry Gems," and Week Two will feature "Fractions in Action." This program will instill confidence in students' math and problem-solving abilities.

To maintain an ideal student/teacher ratio of approximately 5 to 1, enrollment is limited. **Registration will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.** In order for families to make their summer vacation plans in advance, the following information is provided:

WHEN: Monday, July 21st - Friday, August 1st.

TIME: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

WHERE: Agawam Junior High School Library.

COST: \$215.

If you are interested in having your child participate in the "Camp C.L.I.M.B." Summer Math Program, please contact Mrs. Lepage at the Superintendent's Office, 821-0570. A non-refundable deposit of \$100 is required, and checks should be made payable to the "Agawam Public Schools Summer Math Program." The remaining balance of \$115 must be paid by Friday, June 27th.

*Please remember to patronize your local businesses ...
ADVERTISER NEWS!!!*



**OUR ANNUAL
"GRADUATION
ISSUE" will
be published on
Thursday,
June 19th. The
deadline for ALL
college announcements,
scholarship news,
photos, etc., is Monday,
June 16th, at 12:00
noon ... AAN!!!**

Phoenix House visits AHS health classes...



ON MONDAY, JUNE 2ND, students from the Phoenix House in Springfield visited the health classes of Diana Chase (far left) and Catherine Gomes (far right) in conjunction with their substance abuse unit. Phoenix House is an in-house substance abuse facility for high school age students. These visitors, under the supervision of John Danielson, spoke student-to-student on their experiences with drugs and alcohol and how they "never thought it would happen to them." Students were able to ask relevant questions from peers concerning alcohol and street drugs.

Calendar of June events for Agawam High School

Thurs., June 12th: SCHOOL COUNCIL, 5:00 p.m.; SPORTS RECOGNITION NIGHT, 5:30 p.m.

Fri., June 13th: AHS HISTORY STUDENTS TO STATE HOUSE IN BOSTON.

Tues., June 17th: PERIOD 7 EXAMS, 7:25 a.m.-9:05 a.m.; PERIOD 6 EXAMS, 9:10 a.m.-10:40 a.m.; PERIOD 5 EXAMS, 10:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Wed., June 18th: PERIOD 4 EXAMS, 7:25 a.m.-9:05 a.m.; PERIOD 3 EXAMS, 9:10 a.m.-10:40 a.m.; MAKE-UP EXAMS, 10:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m.; FALL SPORTS INFORMATION NIGHT, 6:00 p.m.

Thurs., June 19th: PERIOD 2 EXAMS, 7:25 a.m.-9:05 a.m.; PERIOD 1 EXAMS, 9:10 a.m.-10:40 a.m.; MAKE-UP EXAMS, 10:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Fri., June 20th: MAKE-UP EXAMS, 7:25 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Sat., June 21st: CLASS OF 2005 TRIP TO NEWPORT, R.I., 8:00 a.m.

Mon., June 23rd: Half Day of School - Review Exams.

Tues., June 24th: SUMMER SCHOOL REGISTRATION BEGINS, 9:00 a.m.-12:00.

Wed., June 25th: SUMMER SCHOOL REGISTRATION BEGINS, 9:00 a.m.-12:00.

Thurs., June 26th: SUMMER SCHOOL REGISTRATION BEGINS, 9:00 a.m.-12:00.

Fri., June 27th: SUMMER SCHOOL REGISTRATION BEGINS, 9:00 a.m.-12:00.

Want to surprise your friends, family members, or co-workers when they turn a "certain age"? Then be sure to put a "Birthday Ad" in The Agawam Advertiser News....

Dismissal procedure at Agawam Junior High School

Agawam Junior High School Principal Kevin C. Littlefield has announced that the school will observe the following "Last Day of School Dismissal Procedure" on June 23rd.

The following policy will be in place:

DISMISSAL WILL BE AT APPROXIMATELY 11:15 A.M.

* All students who normally ride the bus home will be dismissed from their homerooms when their bus arrives at school.

* If you are a bus rider, **you must ride your normal bus home**. Bus riders **will not be allowed** to walk home with friends.

* Students who will be picked up and driven home by parents/guardians must have a written note from their parent/guardian.

* Walkers will be dismissed in intervals **after** all busses have departed.

Mr. Littlefield thanks parents/guardians in advance for their cooperation and understanding in this matter.

For all the hometown news, you turn our pages each and every week ... AAN!!!

MILITARY APPRECIATION DAY!

Flag Day-Saturday, June 14th

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★ FIREWORKS IN THE RIVER'S EDGE PICNIC GROVE!
★ GUEST SPEAKERS! ★ COLOR GUARD CEREMONY
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The THRILL CAPITAL of NEW ENGLAND!

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Present this coupon at Six Flags New England and receive \$12 off regular weekday (Mon-Fri) admission or Save \$8 off regular Weekends (Sat & Sun) April 19th - July 31. Beginning August 1st Save \$10 off weekdays and \$5 off Weekends. Offer valid any time 2003. Not valid with any other offers or promotions, discounts, late-gate or kids admission. Offer cannot be redeemed for cash. Coupon is valid for up to 8 people. Expires 11/2/03.

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Get Out of Line!

Six Flags "New" virtual ride reservation system!

Present this coupon at Six Flags New England's Fastlane registration center and receive \$3 off the Fastlane initial set up fee and \$3 off per person. 10 rides are available on the Fastlane system. Each unit is good for up to 6 people. Best of all, you'll never have to stand in line to ride. Offer based on availability. Some restrictions apply. Expires 11/2/03.

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Mary Ann's dancers perform at Springfield events...



STUDENTS FROM THE Mary Ann Studio of Dance were performing once again in Springfield recently. If you attended the Springfield Pancake Breakfast (left photo), perhaps you caught their show? Mary Ann and her dancers entertained while thousands of people were enjoying their pancake breakfast. In right photo: The day after the Pancake Breakfast, Mary Ann's students were at Forest Park in Springfield, where they were entertaining the participants in the "heart walk" fundraiser for the American Heart Association. Whenever and wherever these youngsters are performing, they are sharing their joy of dancing with others.



From The AHS Guidance Office...

by Judy Cohen
Agawam High School
Guidance Counselor

A Father's Day message

Walking into a card store, I notice all types of cards for dads. Yes, it's that time of year again. Father's Day is fast approaching. But the thought of the day gives me pause. Just what does make a father?

Is it the person who fathered the child? Not necessarily. It is only that person if he is the one who nurtures the child, who unquestionably loves the child, who reaches out to the child with warmth and words.

Being a dad is an awesome responsibility. One has to be a doctor, a teacher, a friend, a role model, a disciplinarian, and a haven. Wow! So many hats to wear.

Dads often have difficulty showing emotions. After all, it is not manly to cry. It is not manly to show your feelings. But is this healthy? What are you showing your children? Don't you want them to feel? Only through reaching out to your children will they learn to reach out to others. They need to learn what a hug feels like. They need to hear the words, "I love you."

Children need your guidance. They want it; they yearn for it. But they do not want guidance bestowed in a negative way. They need constructive comments, not destructive ones. It's okay to tell them they are wrong, but why are they wrong and what can they do to improve?

Many times dads leave the lessons of life to moms, but when they do this, they are missing out on so much. Only through sharing, through talking, through caring will bonding ensue. Only then will communications take place and closeness become a reality. My three sons are grown, but my husband, their dad, still picks up the phone and calls them regularly. I can hear laughter, encouragement, and advice being shared. When they see each other, not only words are exchanged, but hugs are given, too. How beautiful! How meaningful!

When I look at two of my sons who are fathers, I marvel. So deftly do they deal with their kids. With obvious delight, they interact with them, tossing them in the air, reading them stories, teaching them songs and, yes, disciplining them, too. But the discipline is done with love. Even with their young children, a no is given with a reason that clearly adds meaning and rightness to the no.

Through their interactions, they are teaching their

children how to behave. They are role models. They are the ones their children will emulate.

Together with his spouse, each dad has been given a piece of clay and has been granted the awesome task of molding it. What shape will the clay be in when Dad is done? What imprints will he have made? Whatever marks he makes on the clay will be there for a lifetime.

Some marks will fade a little in time, but each one will make an indelible spot on the fabric of the child's life, helping to determine what he will grapple with as he progresses through life. Hopefully, the marks will include the tools of insight, love, understanding, and coping that will enable the child to be successful.

Dads, it is important for you to look into yourselves. Who are you? Where are you going? What do you want for your child? When you are secure within yourself, you will be secure reaching out to your child. Take what you have learned from your folks. Use what has worked. Leave behind what hasn't, making a determined and conscious decision to be the kind of dad that you wanted or had.

You will be helping your son grow from baby to boy to man. When he is an infant, you are one of the people who will be responsible for his every need. You will bathe him, change him, kiss him, hug him, play peek-a-boo with him, and marvel at his responses.

As he grows into a boy, make sure the hugging continues. The talks will become more directive. There will be more teaching involved. Go with him to his games. Be there with him as he learns how to use the computer.

Encourage him to interact with others and then, Dad, give him the license to move on. But don't stop outwardly showing your love for him. Yes, he will probably be embarrassed if you give him a big, sloppy kiss on the cheek, so try a hug and a quick peck instead. Just make sure you keep giving him signs

that he is important. Give him space to grow, but give him boundaries, too. He will be exploring uncharted territories, but help him to know which ones are appropriate, which ones are safe. Give him praise and encouragement.

In just a blink of the eye, you will notice that this little lad has grown from boy to man. He has grown in understanding and in stature. He has taken what you have given him and is walking with determination and confidence.

You will notice that you will be walking side by side, not in front of or behind each other. And you will look at him, as I do at my sons, and be filled with warmth and pride.

Indeed, you will be proud of all he has become. In turn, he will look at you, and I am sure inwardly give thanks that you have been and will continue to be a dad in the truest sense of the word.

My best wishes for a Happy Father's Day.

Over the river and to the Woods.

Join us for a
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Sat., June 14th • 10am-3pm

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Sports



COACH PETER CLARK (far right, back row) is pictured above with members of the 2003 Agawam High School boys' varsity baseball team, which won the Western Massachusetts Division I title by defeating the Westfield High Bombers on Monday, June 9th. Photo courtesy of Walt Steinmetz Photography.

Four-run 1st springboards Agawam High baseball over Westfield for WMass. title

by Dave Rollins
Sports Writer

Using the old-fashioned combination of timely hitting, timely pitching, and speed, the Agawam High baseball Brownies won their second Western Massachusetts Division I title in five years on a beautiful Monday evening at Chicopee's historic Szot Park in convincing fashion, 8-3 over the third-seeded Westfield High Bombers.

The victory was a landmark one for six-year Coach Peter Clark. Clark became the first AHS baseball coach ever to take two sectional titles, with the first coming in his second season at the helm back in 1999.

But the crown four years ago little resembled the 2003 championship. This time around, the Brownies came into the tournament as league champions, the number one seed, and advanced to the finals in wrecking ball fashion with lop-sided routs in the quarterfinals, 17-zip over Cathedral, and the semi-finals, 18-4 over fourth-seeded Chicopee Comp.

So, make that 43 runs in three tournament outings for the Brownies as they prepare at presstime to take on Central Massachusetts champs Marlboro High (18-3) in the state DI semi-finals at presstime, Wednesday, June 11th, again at the friendly confines of Szot Park in Chicopee (weather permitting).

AHS has never won a state baseball championship and the kids and Clark believe they have the right stuff to do so in 2003.

"I feel jubilant. We have a bunch of good kids who come out for this program. They have all deserved this WMass. title," noted Clark.

After the Westfield win, the Brownies have reeled off 12 straight to hit the 20-3 mark.

This was the third time AHS had stopped Westfield this season, and that's not an easy thing to do. The Bombers ended at 14-8.

And did the top seeds in the orange and brown play like frontrunners do. They pounded out 12 hits, saw a great performance on the hill by junior ace Jeff Neilsen (8 innings, 10 strikeouts, 4 walks, 2 unearned runs), and raced around the bases like it was a little league game.

In all, the Brownies stole nine bases. That is an incredible stat considering this was a championship game.

"I was pumped up when our guys scored those four runs in the first inning. They spotted me a lot," was Neilsen's take during the wild post-game celebration.

Added All-Scholastic senior captain Matt Rheault, who called another solid game behind the plate, "It was a typical Jeff Neilsen performance. He hit his spots and used his head out there."

The four runs in the first inning was just a continuation of Agawam's lop-sided quarterfinal and semifinal routs. The locals sent 10 hitters to the plate on three hits and four walks to get the festivities going.

Clark also utilized something he was very high on during his pre-season discussions about his 2003 team - its superior speed. The base-stealing greatly enhanced Agawam's opportunities to manufacture runs while putting tremendous pressure on the Bombers in the field.

In a 4-0 hole so early, the Westfield nine was in deep trouble. They had only one hit after three frames and just five overall, which didn't help ace Bobby Carrington. Going in, this guy was considered one of the top hurlers in the region, but his back was ailing and he left in the third inning after allowing all four earned runs on three hits and six walks.

Westfield did nick Neilsen in the fourth off a two-out error followed by a single to cut the AHS advantage to 4-1.

The Brownies immediately responded in the bottom of the frame with a deuce. A leadoff single by All-Scholastic third baseman Corey Federico (3-4, 2 runs scored) started the rally.

Sophomore designated hitter T.J. Hamilton cracked another single, and Rheault sacrificed Federico home. Senior leftfielder Mario Maloni singled to left, sending Hamilton to third. With one out and runners at the corners, junior first baseman Justin Perry, sporting a bulging .500 batting average after two tournament

SEE BASEBALL TOURNAMENT - Page 36

DI semifinal win over Comp just more of the same for AHS baseball, 18-4

by Dave Rollins
Sports Writer

Chicopee Comprehensive High School might have learned its lesson when it played Agawam High baseball way back in early April.

The Colts were demolished by 20 runs in a game called after five innings when both coaches agreed enough was enough.

The Colts recovered nicely and ended at 14-6 for the regular schedule and won the Valley Wheel to receive a fourth seed in the Western Massachusetts Division I Tournament. The Brownies went on to a 17-3 overall slate, grabbed the very tough Valley League flag going away, and then were awarded the top seed in the DI tourney.

So when Comp and the white-hot Brownies met in the DI semifinals last Wednesday afternoon at Chicopee's historic Szot Park, Comp was hoping that April whipping was simply an apparition.

But the Brownies have inflicted nightmares on the opposition in this 2003 tournament and the semifinal was more of the same. The orange and brown ran the scoreboard silly once again (17-0 over Cathedral in the quarterfinals) in an overwhelming 18-4 romp.

This set the stage for the WMass. DI championship game between the 19-3 Brownies and the 15-7 Westfield High Bombers (see related story).

Against Comp, the Brownies were having a blast on both offense and defense. Coach Peter Clark sent undefeated junior lefty Justin Perry to the hill.

The big guy shut down the Colts in the first inning, which was highlighted by an outstanding throw from sophomore leftfielder Andrew Wakelee to All-Scholastic junior catcher Matt Rheault at the plate. Wakelee's laser cut down a Comp runner and set the stage for the coming onslaught.

"I double-pumped on that play and still was able to get the runner," was Wakelee's take on the play afterwards.

Following the semifinal rout, the Brownies total 35 runs in two tournament games on 29 hits. The opposition scored just four times.

Agawam drew first blood in its half of the frame. The locals tallied three runs on four hits. The big blow was a two-run, two-out double by Perry (3-5, 2 doubles, 4 RBI's, 2 runs scored) to help his own pitching effort.

After Perry got out of another mini-jam in the second, the Brownies extended the lead to 6-0 by scoring three more times, all with two outs. The hammer in this one came from senior second baseman Mario Maloni (2-5, 3 RBI's). He bashed a triple.

Comp finally got on the board in the top of the third with a pair of runs on a single, double, and wild pitch.

Up 6-2, Agawam put it away in its half of the third. Eight batters went to the plate and four runs scored. Sophomore designated hitter T.J. Hamilton (2-5, 3 RBI's, 2 runs) dealt the dagger with a base-clearing double.

When the smoke cleared, it was 10-2, AHS.

Perry sent the Colts down in the fourth and the Brownies tacked on a singleton for an 11-2 lead.

After a scoreless fifth, Clark called upon Wakelee to get some mound work in to save Perry for another day. Perry finished his five-inning stint by allowing three hits on eight walks and two earned runs. Perry went back to his familiar first base space.

Wakelee, another of those returning arms in Clark's corral for next season, blanked Comp in the top of the six and the Brownies scored a lone run in the bottom of the frame. The run came when Wakelee walked and senior Mike Bachini sacrificed him home from third on a fly-out to the outfield.

Make that a 12-2 lead and all 12 of Agawam's runs so far came with two gone.

Yet Agawam was far from done. In the seventh, they lived large again by plating six more runs on four more hits. Perry smacked his second two-run double of the game during the assault.

The eighth frame went scoreless and then Wakelee was pulled (3 innings, 0 hits, 2 whiffs, 5 walks) by Clark in favor of senior Shawn McKeever. He mopped up but a leadoff walk, a single, another walk, and an error led to a couple of meaningless runs and the final 18-4 spread.

McKeever fanned two Comp hitters to end it.

Also getting into the offensive fireworks for the Brownies were Rheault (3 hits) and Wakelee (2 hits).

"We played well for the second game in a row after our 17-0 win over Cathedral in the quarterfinals. We're ready," Clark added during the post-game hoopla.

BASEBALL TOURNAMENT - from Page 35

games, sent a flyball to right to plate Hamilton for the 6-1 lead.

With Neilsen still cruising, the Brownies scored their seventh run in the bottom of the sixth.

Rheault reached on a throwing error from short to first. The quick catcher stole second and went to third when the throw from the plate sailed into the outfield. Rheault scampered home on a wild pitch.

Trailing 7-1, time was running out for the Bombers. They managed to record another unearned run in the eighth. An error and Neilsen's wild pitch brought them to 7-2.

As usual, AHS answered the challenge. With one gone in the bottom of the frame, Maloni (2-3, 2 runs scored) singled and stole second. The senior was driven home by a single to center by senior captain and centerfielder Dave Bienia (1-4, RBI). It was 8-2.

Clark then called it an evening for Neilsen. In from the bullpen came sophomore Kyle Perry. "I wasn't tired, but the move was okay. Everything went well for me and the team," said Neilsen.

Added Clark, "I have some good pitchers here on the bench. We don't mind using them at all."

After a leadoff out, Perry walked the next batter, who then went to third on a double. He scored on a fielder's choice.

Perry then pinned his ears back and dusted the next Bomber at the plate and the game was instantly over and AHS had its title.

Exposition Area Scholarship golf tournament set for June 29th

The Exposition Area Alumni Scholarship Fund will hold its 2003 annual golf tournament on Sunday, June 29th, at the Agawam Municipal Golf Course, with dinner after the tournament at the Dante Club in West Springfield.

The tournament will feature a scramble format and is open to the public.

The tournament fee is \$75 per person, which includes green fees, a golf cart, lunch on the course, prizes for all golfers, and a multi-course dinner at the Dante Club.

A great assortment of prizes are being donated by area businesses and individual supporters of the scholarship fund for this year's tournament.

Information on registration and starting times is available by calling Tom Frasco at 786-0093. Starting times begin at 10:00 a.m.

Parties interested in sponsoring a tee or donating a prize for the tournament can contact Mark Navone at 781-2324. Dinner-only tickets are also available for \$20.

"Summer Swim & Gym" program offered at Fitness First in Feeding Hills

Fitness First Health & Fitness Center, located at 60 North Westfield Street, Feeding Hills, will be having its annual "Summer Swim & Gym" program for children ages four through nine during the weeks of July 7th-11th and July 14th-18th. Each day is designed to address the needs and interests of the various stages of a child's life.

Fitness First's extensive facilities include an indoor pool, basketball, Walleyball, obstacle course, oversized activity rooms, and nearby outdoor play area. The nearby Feeding Hills Congregational Church allows Fitness First the use of their fields for all outdoor sports.

Daily activities will include basketball, Walleyball, gym games, obstacle course, kids' BodyPUMP, crafts, and lots of swimming. Outside activities include wiffle-

ball, soccer, kickball, flag football, capture the flag, and sack races. These activities will be held outside, weather permitting. Sports will be age-appropriate.

Qualified attendants will remain with their age groups throughout each morning and will assist certified instructors in specialty areas. Fitness First prides itself on developing a strong, positive relationship with each child.

The deadline for registration is June 30th. Payment in full is due upon registration. Sign-up is limited to 50 children per week. The fee for Fitness First members is \$99; the non-member fee is \$125. There is a \$20 discount for siblings. Cash, checks, and all major credit cards are accepted.

For additional information, please call Sue at Fitness First at (413) 786-1460.

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Despite semifinal loss to Longmeadow, Agawam High boys' lacrosse now on Western Massachusetts map

by Bill Bellico
Sports Writer

The Agawam High boys' lacrosse team's season came to a close on Thursday, June 5th, after a tough loss to Longmeadow in the Western Massachusetts Division I semifinals.

Although the Brownies fell 10-0 against this lacrosse powerhouse, their accomplishments this season far outweigh the disappointment of the loss. Agawam had several first-time events in the program's history that displayed the benefits of their hard work this year.

"I was really happy about the way we came to play in this game," said Coach Nick St. George. "Emotionally speaking, the team went out ready to work hard and to truly compete. Longmeadow simply had one of their best games of the season."

The Brownies did finish this year with one of the best records in the team's history - 11-9 (a close second to an 11-7 record in 2000).

Their final record put them atop the Valley League and earned them a league title. Moreover, Agawam beat two teams for the first time in school history.

The first was over South Hadley on April 17th by a margin of 9-4. This victory was all the more sweet since South Hadley (the 2002 WMass. champs) knocked the Brownies out of the first round of last year's tournament.

The other first-time win was perhaps one of the more momentous events this season, as Agawam defeated Minnechaug, 8-4, in the first round of the WMass. DI Tournament.

Not only was this its first victory over such a tough opponent, but Agawam gained its first-ever post-sea-

son win that allowed them to go on to the semifinals.

"We had a very successful year," said St. George. "We accomplished a lot of the goals we set for ourselves at the beginning of the season."

This season saw a large crew of senior players (11 in total) who will be gone next year.

Among them were offensive powerhouses like Justin Coelho, Mike McGeoghan, and Dan Sullivan. St. George was proud of their efforts this season.

Coelho, Agawam's all-time leading scorer, finished as a league leader with 35 goals and 21 assists. "Justin just had a really great season," said St. George.

McGeoghan had 29 goals and eight assists for the year. "Mike is a really great athlete. He's really fast and has a great shot," noted the coach.

Sullivan ended the season with 27 goals and five assists. "Dan was great at taking advantage of opportunities given to him by teammates and turning them into goals," remarked St. George.

The coach was also pleased by the mental leadership of seniors like Adam Trexler.

"Adam was truly an emotional leader for us this season. He worked as hard as any player ever has and truly set the tempo for the team."

According to St. George, another senior who was a major part of the team's success this season was All-Scholastic defenseman Mike Piccin.

"Mike had an outstanding season," said the coach. "He really proved himself as one of the best defenders in Western Mass."

St. George was also proud of the defensive work by seniors such as Dan Gomes, Paul Lagasse, and John Tisdell.

"Our defense was really the heart and soul of the team this year," said the coach.

One player who had a truly outstanding season was senior Keith Cosimini, who made over 220 saves in net. Cosimini finished with a 72-percent save ratio.

"Keith really stepped up this year and had a great season," commented St. George.

Other seniors who added to Agawam's success this season were David Cowan and Ryan Zaczynski.

Although Agawam is losing a good number of seniors this year, next season looks promising with a lot of returning players with plenty of experience.

Among them are players like Adam Corbin, Anthony DiMaio, Alex Ellsworth, Dan Mancini, and Chris Nyman, who all played big roles this season.

"We have a good number of players coming back who have a lot of talent and a lot of experience," said St. George.

"These players, added to those coming in from the junior varsity squad, should be able to have another successful season as long as everybody continues to work hard."

In the end, Agawam appears on the verge of being a real player in high school lacrosse, something that St. George knows is due to the effort and hard work put forth by his charges.

"As a whole, this was truly a very enjoyable season. It was really a pleasure to coach these guys," concluded St. George.



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Class of 2003 will be sorely missed by Agawam High School's track and field teams next year

While no Agawam High track and field performer was able to advance to the All-New England Championships after last Saturday's (June 7th) soggy Massachusetts All-State Championships at Nowell High School on Boston's South Shore, Coaches Dan Pryce (girls) and Bill Dillon (boys) readily acknowledge that the loss of many key school record-holding performers from the class of 2003 will put the 2004 indoor and outdoor teams into a rebuilding mode.

Six Brownie girls - All-Scholastic senior captain Kaitlin Sardella (800 meters), All-Scholastic senior Andrea Babbin (pole vault, 4 x 100 meter relay), All-Scholastic junior Katie Malloy (high jump), senior Angela Buendo (4 x 100 meter relay), senior captain Becky Carey (4 x 100 meter relay), and freshman Lauren Surprenant (4 x 100 meter relay) - competed at the All-State Meet. The lone Brownie boy to participate was junior Peter Midura, the Western Mass. 800-meter champ.

Sardella finished 12th overall to lead the Brownies. The top six in each event go on to the New England Championships.

"There is no question both the girls' team and the boys' team will need to fill many holes next winter and spring," noted Pryce, who serves as the indoor coach for both squads and as the outdoor coach for the girls.

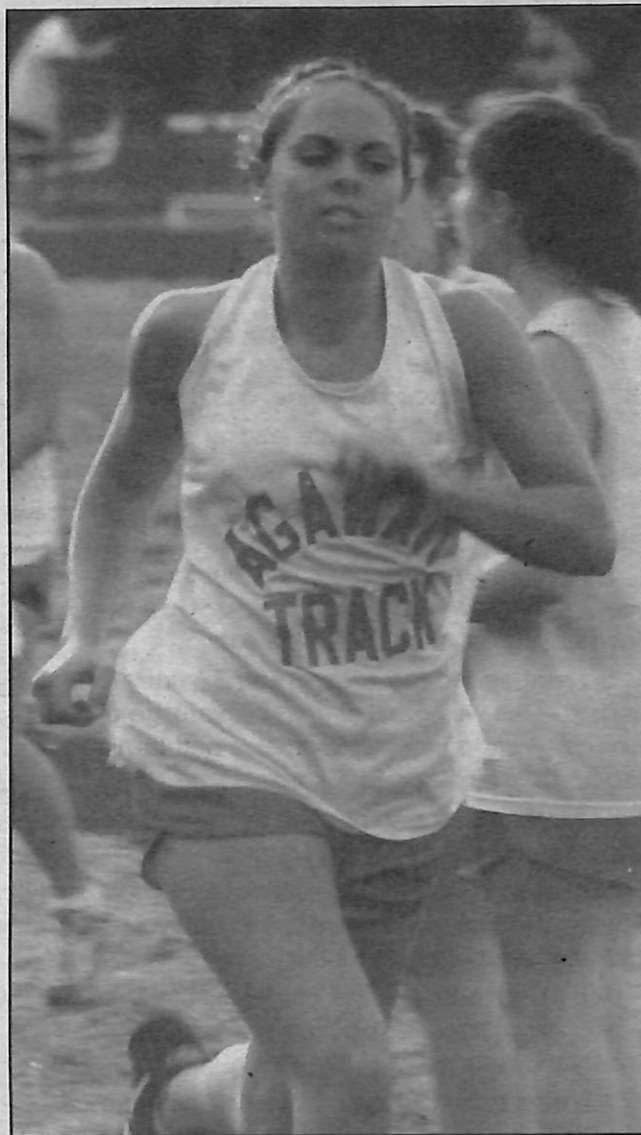
"We are losing many seniors who have been instrumental members of this program for the past four years, and many of them are leaving with multiple school records, either individually or as a member of a relay team," added Pryce.

The girls' team, for example, has shared the indoor league championship in 2001, 2002, and 2003, and tied for the outdoor league flag in 2001 and 2002. The boys were undefeated during the winter of 2002-2003 and won the Pioneer title before finishing second at the Western Mass. Championships. The girls were third in the team standings at this year's Western Mass. Outdoor Championships (held at Holyoke High School), and were runners-up to Cathedral at the WMass. Indoor Championships in 2001.

For the class of 2003, Sardella became the school's all-time leader in school records with five - 600 meters (1:44.35), 4 x 800 meter relay, 4 x 400 meter relay, sprint medley relay, and most recently broke a 13 year-old record in the 800-meter run (2:21.28). She held a sixth school record in the 1,000-meter run before it was broken by teammate Jodie Pfau at the WMass. Indoor Championships in February.

While leading the team in indoor scoring this past winter, Sardella was a member of three straight Steele Relay team titles, including the 4 x 800 in 2001 and consecutive sprint medley titles in 2002 and 2003 (where she ran the 800 meters).

Next in line for the class of '03 is All-Scholastic and



ALL SCHOLASTIC SENIOR CAPTAIN Kaitlin Sardella became the all-time leader in Agawam High school records for girls' and boys' track and field after breaking a long-standing mark in the 800-meter run. She also holds school records in the 600-meter dash, 4 x 400 meter relay, 4 x 800 meter relay, and sprint medley relay.

multi-talented Danielle Cirillo with four school records - 300-meter hurdles (48.24 seconds), 300-meter dash (45 seconds), sprint medley relay (with two Steele Relay titles, where she ran a 200-meter leg), and the 4 x 400 meter relay.

Cirillo led the outdoor team in scoring as both a junior and as a senior. She also owns a Steele Relay win in the triple jump with Adrienne Brodowski and senior Katie Baum in the 2002 competition.

Senior class members with two school records each include Andrea Babbin, Jodie Pfau, and Becky

Carey.

Babbin holds the pole vault mark (10 feet) and 55-meter dash (7.72 seconds), and will also be missed in the 100-meter dash and the long jump.

Pfau is the 1,000-meter record-holder as mentioned above (3:16.7), as well as a record-holder in the 4 x 800 meter relay. She also was a solid 800-meter runner throughout her four years.

Carey is a member of two relay marks - the 4 x 400 meters and the sprint medley (where she ran the 400-meter leg).

Senior Angela Buendo is a single record-holder in the sprint medley (ran a 200-meter leg), and she will be sorely missed as a 100-meter dash specialist.

Girls returning in 2003-2004 who own school records include junior Adrienne Brodowski, 4 x 200 meter relay; junior Brie Nicklaw, 4 x 200 meter relay; sophomore Catherine Andrew, two-mile run (12:43); sophomore Jackie Svadeba, 4 x 200 meter relay; freshman Lauren Surprenant, 4 x 200 meter relay; and freshman Julie Persico, 4 x 400 meter relay.

On the boys' side, two-year team leader and All-Scholastic senior captain John Slachetka owns four school records - 55-meter dash (6.5 seconds), 300-meter dash (37.08 seconds), 4 x 200 meter relay, and the sprint medley relay.

Slachetka led the team in indoor scoring this past winter and was second in outdoor competition this spring, but a hamstring injury kept him out of several late-season meets (as well as the WMass. Championships, where he may have won a title). This guy also long jumped and high jumped for the Brownies and performed on a high level in the sprint relays.

All-Scholastic senior Ryan McGurn, the team leader in scoring this spring, holds school records in the 55-meter high hurdles (8.38 seconds) and the 4 x 200 meter relay. McGurn, like Slachetka, went down with an injury (knee) that badly hampered him at WMass. McGurn will be missed as a high jumper, triple jumper, and javelin thrower, as well as a member of the relay teams.

Senior Mike DeFilippi is a member of one school record, the 4 x 800 meter relay. DeFilippi doubled as a miler and two-miler for the Brownies and long jumped.

Leading the Brownies next spring will be junior Peter Midura, a holder of four school records - 600 meters (1:30.3), 1,000 meters (2:43.66), sprint medley relay, and 4 x 800 meter relay. Other returning school record-holders will be sophomore Nick Gurau, 4 x 800 meter relay, and junior Randy Carlton, 4 x 800 meter relay.

Agawam Parks & Rec. announces new programs & activities

The Agawam Parks & Recreation Department has a number of new programs and activities slated for this coming summer and fall:

- Whale watch on Saturday, August 16th.
- Bewitching Salem, Massachusetts on Saturday, October 4th.
- Perry Lane Summer Camp (limited openings still available).
- Summer Tennis Lessons at the Agawam High

School.

- Summer Swim Lessons at Perry Lane pool.
- Summer Boys' Lacrosse Clinic - July 14th through July 17th.
- Girls' Field Hockey (beginning this fall).

Anyone interested in the aforementioned pro-

grams is encouraged to register at the Recreation Office (located in the rear of Agawam High School).

You may also call the Recreation Office at 821-0513 for more information.

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AHS volleyball falls in state semifinals to St. John's; finishes 2003 at 18-4

The great run by the volleyballers from Agawam High School ended for the second consecutive year at the Massachusetts Division I schoolboy semifinals, when defending state champs St. John's Danvers stopped the Brownies in three straight games, 30-22, 30-17, and 30-20.

The Brownies entered the state semifinals after posting an upset victory over previously undefeated Minnechaug Regional in the Western Mass. championship game to annex their second straight sectional title.

Prior to the 3-0 stunner over Minnechaug, the Brownies overcame an 0-2 deficit against undefeated and number-two seeded Westfield High in the Western Mass. semifinals for a dramatic 3-2 win.

This time, however, the Brownies ran into a tall and talented buzzsaw known as St. John's Prep at Assumption College's Plourde Gymnasium. While it was a competitive match, the Brownies were under the eight ball from the outset.

"Even with the great effort the team gave, it was not enough against a very powerful St. John's team," Agawam Coach Pat Demers said afterwards. "The kids played a match with all heart and they never gave up. They fought until the very last points were scored. The team dove and rolled to get every ball. We came in as the best team from the western part of the state, and we made an excellent account of ourselves."

St. John's left the semifinal with a 23-1 record before losing its state title to Central Mass. champ Millis last Saturday night on the campus of UMass-Dartmouth.

The Brownies completed their 2003 championship season at 18-4 and reached the WMass. title game for the third consecutive season. In 2002, the Brownies captured the school's first-ever sectional title in volleyball in a five-game thriller over Athol after falling to Ludlow High in the 2001 title game.

The Brownies faced the huge front line of St. John's (including a 6'6" hitter) without the services of 6'3" senior Mike Lalli, the team's big man. Lalli tore ligaments in his ankle in the semifinal win over Westfield.

"There's no doubt that the absence of Mike Lalli hurt us, especially against such a tall and skilled team like St. John's," said Demers. "They had a huge size

advantage over us and took full advantage of it."

St. John's jumped on the Brownies immediately in the opening game before the outside hitting of senior Alex V. Vilkovoy began to settle the Brownies into a comfortable rhythm. The serving of All-Scholastic senior Bill Cochran found a few holes in the St. John's defense, as did All-Scholastic senior and captain Chad Farrington (on the weak side).

However, the excellent blocking by St. John's continually kept the scrambling Brownies at bay and it was over at 22-30.

Although they lost 17-30 in the second game, the Brownies kept it close for a while and took advantage of some inconsistent serving by St. John's. The Brownies attempted to attack the middle after acquiring an early advantage. But St. John's response was in its 6'6" player, who almost singlehandedly blocked and bottlenecked the Brownies' attempt for a comeback.

Alex V. Vilkovoy, senior Bob DeGray, and substitute Jesse Clauson all played well despite the constant pressure applied by St. John's.

"We just never gave up. They challenged us over and over again, and we continued to give a great effort," said Demers.

In Agawam's last gasp to prolong the match, it was tied at 16-all in the third game. Senior captain Chris Holl and senior Ian Hamlett each played huge roles by putting away some key attacks to keep the Brownies in the match.

Junior captain Matt Hartmann also answered the bell by running the middle to keep the St. John's players perplexed for a spell before they regrouped in a big way down the stretch.

St. John's scored 14 of the next 20 points to seal the deal.

"Our seniors again gave a great account of themselves," Demers noted. "We played defense as a team all season, but St. John's just overpowered us at times. I know the boys were disappointed, but to win a second-straight Western Mass. title is quite an accomplishment for them."

Agawam's team chemistry also carried it through the season, with Holl, Farrington, Lalli, DeGray, Alex V. Vilkovoy, Hamlett, and Cochran - the seven

Chris Knight Memorial Golf Tournament to be held July 26th

The fifth annual Chris Knight Memorial Golf Tournament is scheduled for Saturday, July 26th, at the Agawam Municipal Golf Course. The tournament is held in memory of Christopher Knight, who passed away on November 1, 1998. Proceeds from the tournament benefit Children's Hospital in Boston; the tournament has raised over \$40,000 for the hospital over the previous four years.

This will be a double shotgun event with a scramble format. Trophies will be awarded for the top three teams and also prizes for closest to the pin, longest drive, putting contest, drive the banner, and the famous Las Vegas hole. Lunch will be provided on the course.

The banquet will immediately follow at the Polish-American Club across the street with many excellent prizes, including Yankee and Red Sox tickets, golf packages, 17-day "Big E" passes, and a weekend getaway package to the Cape.

The afternoon is just about sold-out, but there are some morning slots still available. Please contact Jim at 789-2745. You may also visit the following website - chrisknightmemorialgolf.com.

Red Cross' 10th annual golf tourney to fund local disaster relief

The 10th annual American Red Cross / Pioneer Valley Chapter golf tournament will be held on Thursday, June 26th. Golfers will spend the day at Oak Ridge Golf Club in Feeding Hills; complete with meals, golfing, putting contest, and prizes. This year will feature two tournaments in one day due to the tournament's popularity.

The a.m. tournament will begin with a 7:00 a.m. registration, and the p.m. tournament will begin with an 11:15 a.m. registration. The proceeds from the day will assist local disaster relief efforts. For more information or to register on-line, visit www.redcrosspioneervalley.org or call Tina Tudryn at 233-1006.

West Side/Agawam Kiwanis Club to host 4th annual golf tournament

Plans are underway for the fourth annual golf tournament to be held by the West Springfield/Agawam Kiwanis Club.

The tournament is now named the Diane Abair Memorial Golf Tournament in honor of chairman Len Anair's late wife, who was a primary architect and promoter of the popular event.

Again this year, the tournament will be held at the Oak Ridge Golf Club in Feeding Hills on Wednesday, June 25th. An 11:00 a.m. shotgun start is planned.

Anair cited the need for sponsors for the tournament, noting that this event is the club's primary fundraiser. The tournament enables the club to fulfill its obligations to many community grants, particularly the scholarships awarded to high school graduates in both Agawam and West Springfield.

Potential sponsors or golfers desiring to set up foursomes are urged to call Anair at 733-9771, or the club line at 734-2168.

For photo coverage in The AAN, call 786-7747 or 786-8137; however, please give us at least 72 hours' notice prior to your event. Thank you for your cooperation...

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Profile... sponsored by Bruno's Pizza

Justin Coelho launches Agawam High School boys' lacrosse into uncharted waters

by Bill Bellico
Sports Writer

Agawam High senior Justin Coelho, is now a part of the Brownies' athletic history. An outstanding 2003 season under his belt, Justin has become the all-time leading scorer for AHS boys' lacrosse.

With 35 goals and 21 assists for the year, Justin gained the school record and was among the league leaders in the Division I Western Massachusetts Valley League.

"It was the best season I ever had," said Justin. "It was really amazing to be a league leader and to be the leading scorer in Agawam's history."

The story of this monumental season for Justin is one where the benefits of hard work and the ability paid big-time dividends. Having never played lacrosse prior to high school, Justin did not even start playing until his sophomore year when he played on the junior varsity squad.

"Having never picked up a lacrosse stick in my life, to now be in my senior year and be one of the leading scorers in my league was just an incredible level of improvement," stated Justin.

But Justin is also quick to avoid taking full credit for his accomplishments this season. "I came a long way from sophomore year, but I don't think I could have done that on any other team or with any other friends than my teammates."

Lacrosse Coach Nick St. George is also impressed with Justin's progress as a player. "His confidence level in the sport really came a long ways in that three-year period," commented St. George.

Coinciding with Justin's superb year was an outstanding season for the AHS lacrosse team. Some of the squad's accomplishments include a league title, beating two programs for the first time in the team's history, and gaining their first ever postseason victory (Division I quarterfinal).

"We had a real great season," said Justin. "We played hard all year and never gave up even when we dropped a few tough games."

Justin is referring to somewhat of a midseason slump the Brownies had. At one point in the year, Agawam was 4-6 in its overall record and things were not looking up for the team.

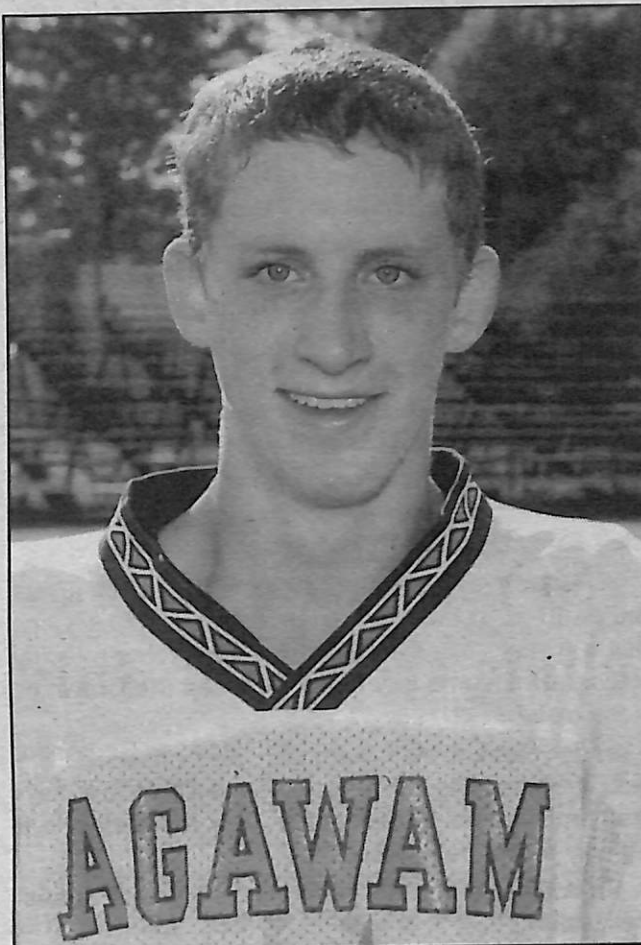
But the team did a complete "180" and started winning some big games in mid-May to return to a winning record, eventually overcoming first-place Westfield High School to earn a league title.

"We really got it together and we were able to win our league and it turned out to be one of the teams' biggest and most successful seasons," said Justin.

Throughout the Brownies' successes, Justin proved himself as an integral part of the team and as a major factor in Agawam's achievements. St. George totally agreed. "The team came to rely on him a lot in games. He generated offense on his own and was a great shooter," said St. George. "When he did well in a game, that meant the team as a whole did well."

Justin's major role leading the attack became even more apparent as the season wound down. He was the team's leading scorer in their last three regular season games, two of which the team won.

The first of the three was against first-place Westfield where Justin had three goals in the Agawam's 7-6 overtime victory. The victory put Agawam and Westfield in a tie for first place. The second



JUSTIN COELHO

was in a closely fought, 6-5 loss against Longmeadow High, the Division I runners-up, where Coelho finished with two goals, including a fourth-quarter goal that boosted the team's spirits and led them to a 5-5 tying goal (courtesy of junior Steve Forni).

Unfortunately the Brownies let up a goal in the final minutes.

In the Brownies' final regular season game, Justin led the team in scoring for the third straight game, this time against Agawam's long-time rivals West Springfield. Justin had a big game with four goals and two assists, including the game-winner with 36 seconds left in this 6-5 Agawam victory.

"Justin had some really great games at the end of the season," said St. George. "He was on fire in those last few games."

Justin also was a key cog in Agawam's history, making first-time wins over South Hadley High, the 2002 WMass champs, and Minnechaug Regional in the Division I quarterfinals.

In the 9-4 victory over South Hadley, Justin finished with a goal and four assists.

In the Minnechaug win, Justin shared the honors of leading scorer with senior Dan Sullivan with their three goals each. Two of Justin's goals included the first and last of the game. This victory, the biggest of the season, not only saw Agawam's first time defeating Minnechaug, but also gave the program its first ever playoff victory and an advancement to the semifinals against Longmeadow. Despite the loss in the semifinals to the powerful Lancers, the experience was important to Justin in what it represented for the team and its future.

"Hopefully, this experience will keep this year's

efforts alive and help make Agawam a lacrosse power," said Justin.

Justin also commented on playing for St. George. "He's a good coach. He gets you to work really hard, but it's fun playing for him."

As far as the future goes for Justin, he plans to keep playing lacrosse over the summer to prepare for next year when he plays at UMass Dartmouth. Justin, who turned 18 on April 20th, says he hopes to keep working hard next year and do well in college as he pursues a business degree. He is also hopeful that he will keep in touch with his friends from high school.

"I hope that my friends and teammates will go on to be successful as well," commented Justin.

At AHS, Justin's favorite teacher was Joseph Fitzgerald and his favorite subjects were math and science.

Justin's dream car would be a Ferrari 360 Modena, usually priced well over \$140,000. His favorite color is blue, and for a food of choice, he prefers lasagna, especially from his favorite restaurant, The Olive Garden. For clothing, he says he just likes the normal styles and enjoys shopping at Old Navy.

Justin's favorite television show is "The Simpsons" and his favorite movie is "Top Gun." As far as music goes, he prefers more of a rock style, especially that of the Dave Mathews Band. His favorite sports team is the Anaheim Mighty Ducks and for an athlete, he likes Jason Powell.

His proudest athletic moment as a Brownie was this season when they beat Minnechaug in the playoffs. Justin says he is also very proud of being ranked among the top BMX riders in the nation when he was 14.

Justin is the son of Richard, who attended Ludlow High School, and Carlene who went to Cathedral. He is the youngest of four children. His oldest sibling is his brother Chris, 25. His two sisters are Liz, 21, and Jess, 20.

Justin says the person he admires most is his brother, Chris, because he is very successful. "He's the coolest guy I know and he always works hard to get what he wants."

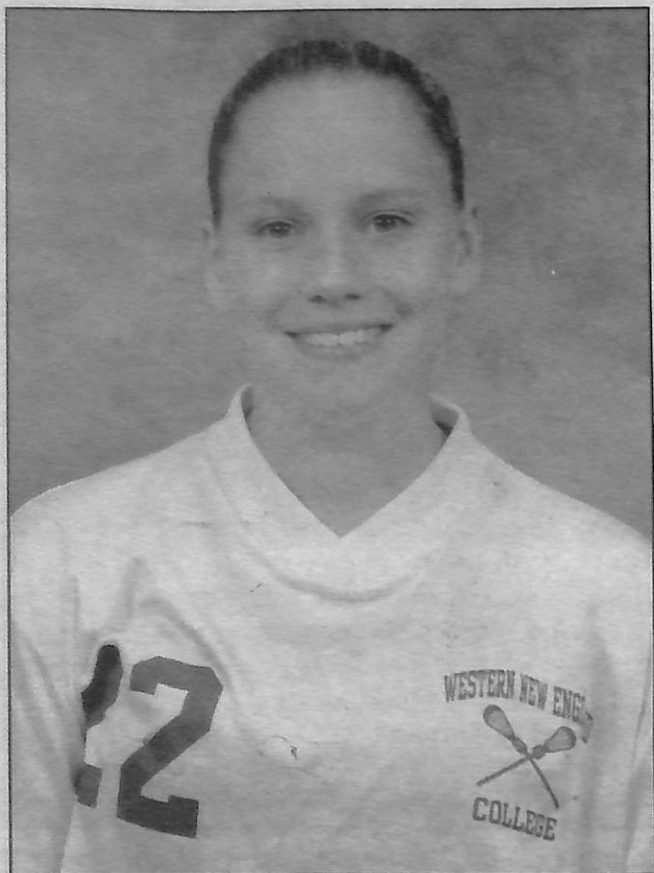
As far as a legacy goes for his lacrosse days at Agawam High School, Justin displayed the attitude of a real team player, a sure sign of what has led to his successes as well as his team's this season. "I'd rather not be remembered alone as an individual player, but rather have our whole team remembered for what we accomplished, as a member of one of the best teams Agawam High has ever had."

AHS SENIOR "ATHLETE OF THE WEEK" IS SPONSORED BY BRUNO'S PIZZERIA AT

807 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills. Eddie Santaniello and his staff have "gone fishin'" for the summer, so their delicious Friday night fish & chips dinner will return after Labor Day. However, they always have great pizza, grinders, calzones, chicken wings, chicken tenders, onion rings, and french fries. Remember, Bruno's delivers seven days a week, so be sure to call 786-8717. Each "Athlete of the Week" will receive a large pizza and a two-litre Coke, compliments of Eddie Santaniello and the friendly folks at Bruno's Pizzeria.



OUR ANNUAL "GRADUATION ISSUE" will be published next Thursday, June 19th. The deadline for ALL college announcements, scholarship news, photos, etc., is Monday, June 16th, at 12:00 noon...



ALYSON NOWELL

Alyson Nowell of Feeding Hills named All-New England for WNEC lacrosse

Alyson Nowell of Feeding Hills, a 2002 graduate of Agawam High School, has been named to the All-New England Women's Lacrosse Alliance First Team (NEWLA) after finishing an outstanding freshman season for the Western New England College women's lacrosse team.

Nowell, a right attack wing, completed her rookie season for the Lady Golden Bears by finishing second on the team in scoring with 25 goals and 22 assists, good for 47 points.

Nowell joined five of her teammates on the All-New England First Team.

The former All-Scholastic player for the AHS Brownies helped WNEC to an 11-7 record, the program's fourth consecutive winning season.

WNEC placed second in the NEWLA Tournament and advanced to the semifinals of the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) New England Division III Championship.

Earlier in the season, Nowell was named "Rookie of the Week" for her strong play and ability to find the net.

She is the daughter of William & Susan Nowell of 12 James Street.

"Connecticut River Challenge" on Sat., June 21st

The "Connecticut River Challenge," a benefit for Shriners Hospital in Springfield, will take place on Saturday, June 21st, beginning at 10:00 a.m. at the Springfield Yacht and Canoe Club in Agawam.

Sponsored by the Curtis Universal Joint Company, Inc. of Springfield, this event is 1.5-mile, six-person canoe relay. So, get together a team of six canoeists for a relay and beat the competition!

A pre-registration fee of \$100 per team is required by June 13th. Some canoe rentals will be available. This will be a day of fun, and a picnic lunch will be provided and awards will be handed out.

For more information, call Shirley at Curtis Universal, 737-0281, ext. 220; fax 746-0822; e-mail rhartmann@curtisuniversal.com; or check out the following website - www.geocities.com/ctrivercanoe.

Brandan Orsatti finishes successful season for Spfld. College wrestling

Brandan Orsatti, a native of Agawam, has completed the 2002-2003 season on the Springfield College wrestling team. Orsatti is a sophomore communications/sports journalism major.

The Pride finished its dual-meet season with a 15-9 record. Springfield College won the New England College Coaches Wrestling Association (NECCWA) Championship (February 22nd-23rd), and finished 28th out of 59 teams at the NCAA Division III Wrestling Championship (March 7th-8th). This is the 54th time in 55 seasons that the Pride has sported a winning record.

Founded in 1885, Springfield College is a private, coeducational institution that emphasizes the education of leaders for the allied health sciences, human and social services, sports and movement activities, and the arts and sciences. It is world-renowned as the birthplace of basketball, a game invented by Professor James Naismith in 1891, and as the alma mater of William G. Morgan, inventor of the game of volleyball.

Summer boys' lax clinic slated for July

Sponsored by the Agawam Parks & Recreation Department, this four-day clinic will be run by AHS varsity Coach Nick St. George and assistants from the AHS varsity lacrosse team.

The clinic is for boys currently enrolled in grades four through eight, and players will be broken into two groups based on grade and ability.

The clinic will be held Monday through Thursday, July 14th-17th, at the School Street field behind Phelps School, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. each day. Cost: \$125.

Registration will take place through Friday, June 20th, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. in the Recreation Office (located at the rear of Agawam High School). For further information, call 821-0513.

A successful 2002-2003 season...

Sara Tremblay part of Spfld. College's swimming and diving team

Sara Tremblay, a native of Agawam, has completed the 2002-2003 season on the Springfield College women's swimming and diving team. Tremblay is a freshman movement and sports studies major.

The Pride won the New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference Swimming & Diving Championship for the third year in a row (February 21st-23rd). Springfield College finished 15th at the NCAA Division III Women's Swimming & Diving Championship (March 13th-15th).

Springfield College offers 50 undergraduate and 14 graduate major areas of study and serves more than 4,000 traditional and non-traditional students, as well as international students, at its main campus in Springfield, Massachusetts and at satellite campuses in seven U.S. cities.

Agawam Parks & Recreation and COA to co-sponsor Red Sox trip

The Agawam Parks & Recreation Department and the town's Council on Aging are going to see the Boston Red Sox on Wednesday, September 17th, and you're invited to come along! The game that day will begin at 7:05 p.m. at Fenway against the Tampa Bay Devil Rays.

The cost is \$50 per person, which includes the bus trip, the ticket to the game, and a meal on the bus. The bus will leave the Agawam Senior Center at 4:30 p.m. Tickets are available on a first-come, first-served basis and are available at the Parks & Recreation Office (located at the rear of the Agawam High School, 760 Cooper Street) or at the Agawam Senior Center (66 Meadowbrook Manor).

For more information, call 821-0513.

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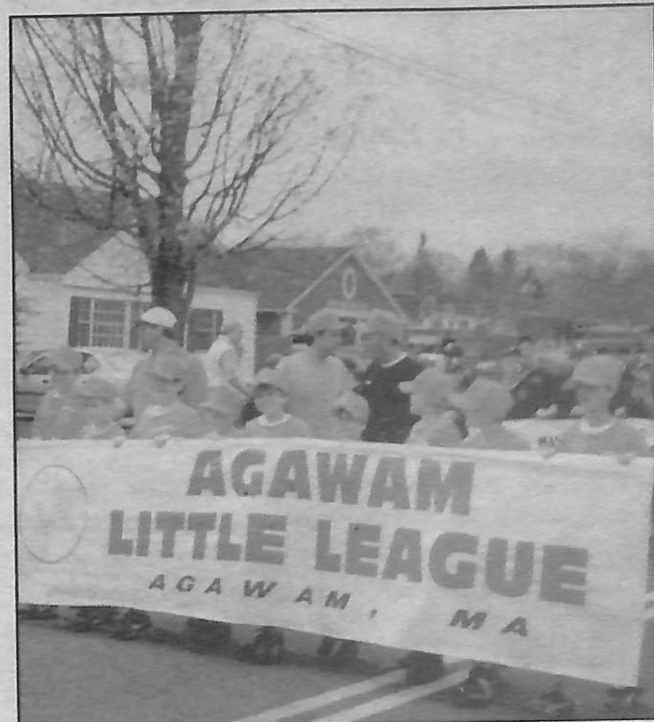
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Opening-day fun for Agawam Little League's 2003 season...



THE AGAWAM LITTLE LEAGUE held its opening-day ceremonies recently at the School Street complex. The "National League of Our Own" award winners were Ralph Myers and Stuart "Rusty" Randall. Ralph was recognized for his many years of dedication to keeping the fields spotless, and Rusty was honored for coaching Agawam Little League (especially for his contributions to the 2002 All Stars). The Agawam Little League All Stars (in left photo) were the 2002 District Two State Champions. From left: Mike Tangredi, Andrew Guiel, Drew Randall, Tyler Toyfair, Joe Colitti, Coach Paul Tangredi, Coach Rusty Randall, Nick Grassetti, Alex Schwinn, Al Ferrentino, Kyle Farrelly, and Andrew White. In honor of the 2002 All Stars' achievements, a sign commemorating their success has been permanently hung at the Little League Field. In right photo: Carrying the Agawam Little League banner during the opening-day parade are the Agawam Little League Minor League Orioles.

Div. A baseball for 11-12 yr.-old boys...

Agawam Warriors rally late to win over Holy Cross

The Agawam Warriors baseball team rallied late in the seven inning to come from behind to beat the team from Holy Cross of Springfield. Wyatt Reminton would get the start for the Warriors, and Joe Toto would come in and get the win. Toto had his stuff working, getting some of Holy Cross' toughest hitters out with his breaking ball.

Early in the game, the team from Holy Cross would stake itself out to a three-run lead. The Warriors never gave up and battled back in the top half of the seventh inning by sending 11 batters to the plate and (at one point) riffing off eight straight hits.

Andrew Cayer would get a hit with men in scoring positions and tie up this contest. Warrior Kyle Craig would be this game's hero, batting in the go-ahead run. Craig battled back from a two-strike count and would hit a soft liner just out of the reach of the short-stop to plate the lead run and cap a great Warrior comeback. Playing for the Warriors in this game were Joe Toto, Andrew Cayer, Robert Deposmo, Brian Piquette, Tony Rescigno, Steve Johnson, John Kudlik, Dylan Coulter, Tim Jendrysik, Wyatt Remington, Kyle Craig, and Mike Rigali.

All of the Warrior coaches, Anthony Toto, Paul Rescigno, Rick Cayer, and Paul Piquette, along with all of the supporting fans who were on hand to watch this exciting game, were very proud of their Warriors' play. The Warriors would like to thank the sponsors that make it possible: Kudlik Brothers, The Gallery Shops of Feeding Hills, Crestview Country Club, Agawam/West Springfield Fish & Game Club, Sarat Ford, Movie Mart, Hampden Savings, and Mr. Phipps.

Thank you, and GO WARRIORS!

Tennis player Rudy Altobelli reaches quarterfinals at National Senior Olympics

Rudy Altobelli of Agawam continued to build his legacy on the tennis courts by reaching the quarterfinals of the recent National Senior Olympic Games held at Hampton Roads, Virginia Beach, Virginia.

Altobelli, the 2001 gold medal winner at this same national competition, came into the 2003 games seeded third. He is ranked 15th nationally and number three in New England in the men's 70's division.

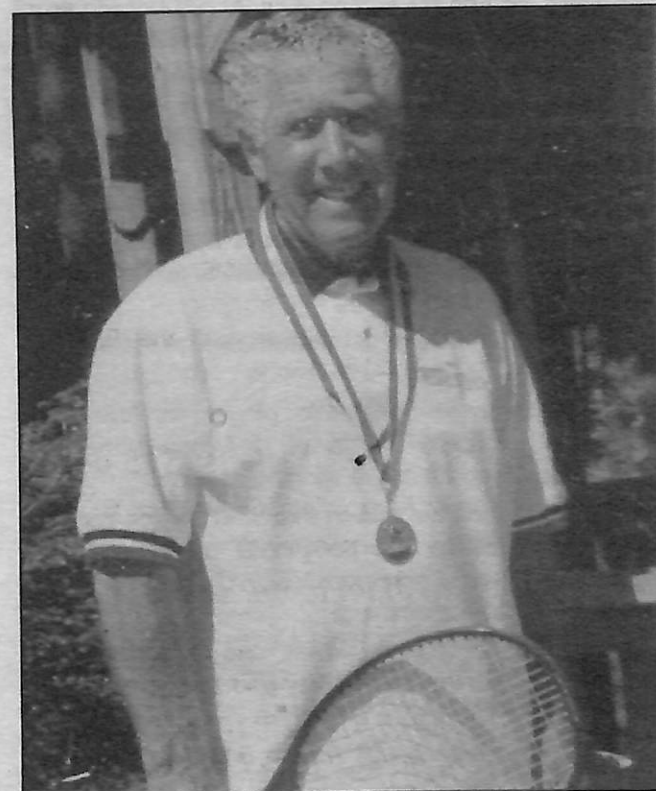
After receiving a first-round bye in the field of 60 players, Altobelli won easily in the round of 32, 6-1, 6-1, as well as in the round of 16, 6-4, 6-1.

In the national quarterfinals, he was defeated in three sets, losing the final set, 5-7.

Altobelli has been a staple in local, state, and New England competition for many years. He has taught tennis to young and old alike, and can be found on a daily basis playing on his favorite surface - red clay - at the Forest Park tennis facility on Sumner Avenue that is operated by the Springfield Tennis Club.

Altobelli will be teaching tennis to a group of 40-and-over adults this summer at the Forest Park courts.

The Mill Street resident again traveled to the National Senior Games with his wife, Peg.



RUDY ALTABELLI

Our coverage of local sports is just one more reason why you turn our pages ... ADVERTISER NEWS!!!

Local girls invited to field hockey clinic

In this clinic, girls in grades five through eight (for the 2003-2004 school year) will learn the fundamental skills, techniques, and strategies of field hockey.

Registration will take place through Friday, July 31st, at the Agawam Parks & Recreation Office.

For further information, call 821-0513.



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Agawam Parks & Recreation leads hiking outings for all

by Kathy Shepard
Feature Editor

The Agawam Parks & Recreation Department wants to "be your guide" on hiking outings through Robinson State Park. Two hiking outings are slated for June.

This Saturday, June 14th, a four-mile loop jog or walk at your own pace will be offered. This circuit trail will loop around and bring you back to your original starting point.

On June 28th, a five-mile easy to moderate hike will be taking place. You can move along at the speed that is most comfortable for you.

Each of these two newly-initiated hikes will have two group leaders. One leader will stay in front, and one will remain at the rear of the group to make sure no one gets lost. Both group leaders will carry cell phones in case of any emergency.

Both hikes will begin at 8:15 a.m. Please meet at the Robinson Park Elementary School parking lot with plenty of water and comfortable walking shoes. Participants will be required to sign a release waiver before the hike begins. For more information, call 821-0513.

The Parks & Rec Dept. is fine-tuning its walking group, too. At this time, the walking group and town in-training allows walking and jogging on the High School track when weather permits, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., and Wednesdays, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., but participants are also led through a series of stretches, exercises, and fitness training from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Those interested in participating should show up early and walk to warm up. A towel, blanket, or exercise mat should be brought by any who do not want to lie directly on the ground. Parks & Rec Director Christopher Sparks encourages residents of all ages and abilities to join the walks and exercises.

The track will be open throughout the summer during the hours indicated. Strollers are permitted on the track. No one will be allowed on the football field or in the bleachers during these times.

For more information, please call the Parks & Recreation Office at 821-0513.

Our classified ads cost just \$15 per week for 30 words or less. However, we DO NOT take them over the telephone.

Please bring them to our office at 23 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills Center (above Remillard Insurance Agency), or mail them (along with payment) to P.O. Box 263, Feeding Hills, MA 01030...

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registration deadline June 25



Western Mass. U-10 girls' basketball...

"Cheetahs" seek support to participate in national tournament

This year's Western Mass. Cheetahs under-10 girls basketball team has made great strides in competing on the state and regional level. The team has played in Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, and in Massachusetts.

The Massachusetts state tournament played in Lowell was a great success, as the U-10 girls became eligible to participate at the National AAU Basketball Tournament from June 26th through July 2nd in Orlando, Florida.

The girls are committed to representing Western Massachusetts and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts at the National AAU Tournament in Orlando. They have been practicing very hard to insure their success on the basketball court.

In order to assist the team in defraying the cost of traveling to Orlando for the National Tournament, we are asking you for your support. Please consider making a donation to the Western Mass. Cheetahs under-10 girls' team.

The team is truly representative of our community, as the girls come from many different cities and towns. Among the players are Kyleigh Oliveira of Agawam and Morgan Lockwood of Feeding Hills.

Please make your check payable to "Western Mass. Cheetahs U-10," c/o Rich Moussette, 26 Ross Road, Holyoke, MA 01040.

Thank you for your consideration!

CENTURY 21 Hometown Assoc. & SHAA to hold local "Home Run Derby"

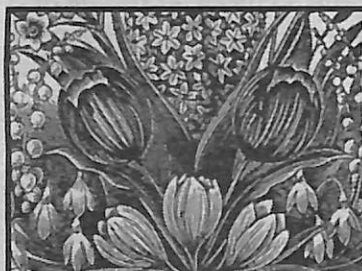
CENTURY 21 Hometown Associates of Feeding Hills is proud to announce that it will sponsor the local CENTURY 21 Hometown Associates' "Home Run Derby" competition for area children on Saturday, June 21st, at Sacred Heart Church's main athletic field in Feeding Hills.

The age range of participants will be 9-10, 11-12, and 13-14 from around the Pioneer Valley area. Participants can be registered by their designated league administrators for the day-long contest and compete with their peers for the coveted local CENTURY 21 Hometown Associates' "Home Run Derby" title and other prizes, including Boston Red Sox tickets.

"We are proud to sponsor our first local 'Home Run Derby' competition and give the children in our community and their families a chance to enjoy a fun day at the ballpark," said John Schuler, Broker/Owner of CENTURY 21 Hometown Associates.

Derby rules will be consistent with major league home run derby rules. A pitching machine will be used for all participants. Designated home run distances will be set for each age bracket, and all rounds will be determined by total home runs hit. The top eight home run hitters in the first round will move to the second round; the top four from the second round will go to the third round; and the top two hitters from each age group will be in the finals.

For more information on rules and the sign-up procedure, contact Brian Regnier, Sacred Heart Athletic Association Administrator, at 237-3416.



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The Bass Hunter "All About Outdoors..." by Skip Bryant

The sun, the heat, and the bugs...

I was on Congamond Lake the other day, and there was a young man, Cote, who had been catching fish left and right. His father, Mike, and I were having trouble getting fish because Cote was getting all of the fish.

Mike and I were enjoying how focused Cote was, as he didn't stop for a minute to look for his next fish. Cote must have caught 30 fish in three hours of fishing time.

There are some things that you must be very careful of when you're out on the water; namely, the sun, the heat, and the bugs. The bugs include those ever-present ticks that are out there.

The sun's rays have been proven to cause skin cancer, so wear sunblock and appropriate clothing to protect your skin. Have lots of water on hand, and be sure to drink it.

The river has been full of shad, striped bass, carp, and small-mouth and large-mouth bass. I will definitely be out there looking for these fish.

My friend, Art, has been telling me that he's been getting some good large-mouth and small-mouth bass on a spinner bait. I need to go out and find those fish!

I'll see you on the water with strong lines and sharp hooks.

Agawam Parks & Rec. offering trip for Patriots' season-opener

Attention, football fans! The Agawam Parks & Recreation Department is going to Niagara Falls, then to the New England Patriots vs. Buffalo Bills season-opener.

A coach bus will leave Agawam Town Hall on Saturday, September 6th, at 8:00 a.m. and will travel to Niagara Falls, where we will stay at the Comfort Inn on Prospect Pointe (just 400 yards from the American Falls). On Sunday, September 7th, we will board the bus at 9:30 a.m. and travel to Ralph Winston Stadium for a catered tailgate party. After the game, we will board the bus and head for home.

The bus will stop along the NYS Thruway on Saturday for lunch, and again on Sunday for dinner. On Saturday evening, you are on your own for dinner and entertainment in Niagara Falls. The Comfort Inn on Prospect Pointe is minutes from all of the NY Falls attractions and the Seneca Niagara Casino; or, you can venture into Canada for attractions and the Casino Niagara.

The cost of this trip is \$225 per person double occupancy, and \$275 per person single occupancy. The trip includes bus transportation, hotel accommodations with continental breakfast, catered tailgate party, and ticket to the game.

Registration is now taking place in the Parks & Recreation Office (located in the rear of Agawam High School), and will be taken on a first-come, first-served basis.

A \$100 deposit per person is required at the initial registration; the balance will be due by Friday, August 1st.

Cars may park and be left overnight behind Agawam Town Hall. However, the Town of Agawam accepts no responsibility for cars left overnight.

For more information, call the Agawam Parks & Recreation Office at 821-0513.

Agawam Little League's weekly standings

JUNIOR LEAGUE (thru 6/1)	
Cambridge Credit Counseling Indians	9 1
Bridgeport National Bindery Orioles	5 5
Shades On Wheels Mets	5 5
Turners Wiffle Ball League Red Sox	4 6
Berkshire Power Yankees	4 6
Santo DeSpir Marble & Granite Braves	3 7

MAJOR LEAGUE (thru 6/8)	
Teddy Bear Pool & Spa Yankees	9 3
Responsive Trucking Orioles	9 3
CRW Landscaping Braves	8 4
Williams Painting Indians	8 4
Fitness First Royals	7 5
Eastern Electronic & Security Dodgers	4 8
Tracy & Co. Mets	3 9
McDonald's Red Sox	3 9

Coldwell Banker A's	
3	9
MINOR LEAGUE - AMER. (thru 6/8)	
Design-A-Scape Orioles	10 1 0
Allen Lawnmower Indians	7 3 0
Hwang's School of Taekwon-Do A's	7 3 0
Valenti's Pizza & Grinders Red Sox	4 7 1
The Heat Doctor Royals	3 8 0
Jubco Landscaping Yankees	0 11 0

MINOR LEAGUE - NATL. (thru 6/8)	
McKenna Orthodontics Giants	9 1 0
Heritage Woods Rockies	8 3 0
Budget Cabinet Sales Mets	6 5 0
Quail Run Estates Dodgers	4 6 1
Smart Appraisal Service Cubs	3 7 0
Poolman Pools Braves	2 9 0

Agawam Mickey Mantle raises record to 4-0

Agawam's 10-4 victory over the Springfield Rangers keeps the season perfect at 4-0. The team, sponsored by McNair Business Machines, has posted victories against Southwick (4-0), Agawam Red Sox (7-3), and Longmeadow (6-2).

The have jelled together and played inspired baseball. "This team is very balanced from top to bottom," noted head Coach Peter McNair.

The offense has a team batting average of .342 and five players batting over .400 (Brenden Ennis [two home runs], Anthony Bailey, Zach Bussiere, John Leydon, and Nathan Rheault).

Strong pitching from Steve Powers (2-0), Jonathan Jordan, and Mike Uzar has led to a league-leading ERA of 2.21 runs per game. In this modern-day era of lots of runs scores, this statistic is "amazing," commented McNair.

Defensively, the team has been rock-solid with only one team error committed. The team has not given extra bases or runs in preserving their successful start.

"They have done all of the little things that you need to do in order to be successful at this level," noted McNair.

Agawam has a grueling schedule ahead, as it will play 12 games in the next 25 days.

"The team has a chance to do something very special, but our work ethic will decide our fate. The team has to maintain its intensity and play inspired baseball if it has ideas about advancing to the post-season," concluded McNair.

Summer tennis lessons offered by Parks & Recreation

Tennis lessons taught this summer will be directed by Fred LaPlace. Participants will be grouped according to ability, and instruction on the mechanics, strategies, rules, and etiquette of tennis will be taught.

Registration for all tennis lessons will begin on Monday, June 16th, at 9:00 a.m. in the Agawam Parks & Recreation Office (760 Cooper Street, Agawam). Payment is due in full at the time of registration.

For further information, call 821-0513.



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Lisa M. Ziegert Golf Tournament & Picnic slated for July 13th

The Lisa M. Ziegert Memorial Golf Tournament and Family Picnic will be held on Sunday, July 13th. This is the 12th tournament in memory of a lovely young woman whose bright smile and infectious giggle still live in our hearts.

The tournament will commence at 7:30 a.m., with a shotgun start at the Agawam Golf Club. The picnic will begin at 1:00 p.m. at the Polish-American Club of Agawam.

The fee for a round of golf is \$75 per golfer and includes golf, doughnuts and coffee, a hot dog and soft drink, and the picnic.

For an extra \$5, a golfer will be listed as a Patriotic Sponsor in our program book and have an American flag on the golf cart. At this time, there's room for a few more foursomes. We will accept single golfers as well.

For those who wish to attend the picnic, the fee is \$5 per person. Children 13 and under are free. There will be games, raffles, and a clown to entertain the children.

If you are interested in golfing or in attending the picnic, please call Dee Ziegert at 786-9443. Reservations for golf or the picnic must be made by July 5th.

Unfortunately, as the picnic is catered, there will be no tickets sold at the door.

Over the past 12 years, the Lisa M. Ziegert Memorial Fund has donated over \$42,000 to benefit the children of Agawam.

The wonderful people who participate in the golf tournament make this possible.

Please join us for a day of fun for a great cause!

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www.soccer-city.com

Junior golf program to begin in July at Oak Ridge

The junior golf program for players ages seven to 17 will once again be held this summer at Oak Ridge Golf Club in Feeding Hills. This year's sponsors are Oak Ridge Golf Club, the Strycharz family, and *The Agawam Advertiser News*.

The cost of this summer clinic is \$20 per child (this includes the cost of balls and the use of the clubs). The program will be held on the following dates from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. and will cover the following topics:

- * **Tuesday, July 8th:** Equipment and etiquette.
- * **Tuesday, July 15th:** Chipping, rules, and initial takeaway.
- * **Tuesday, July 22nd:** Putting, etiquette, and rules.
- * **Tuesday, July 29th:** Full swing.

For further information and/or a registration form, please call Oak Ridge at 789-7307.

Mandatory mtg. for 8th-graders wanting to play sports at AHS

Attention, all eighth-graders!

On Wednesday, June 18th, a mandatory meeting will be held in the Agawam High School cafeteria for all eighth-graders who want to participate in sports (fall, winter, and/or spring) at AHS.

The meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m., and parents must attend with their children.

Tony Strycharz Memorial Golf Classic set for Sun., July 20th

On Sunday, July 20th, the Oak Ridge Golf Club (located at 850 South Westfield Street, Feeding Hills) will proudly host the first Tony Strycharz Memorial Golf Classic, with the proceeds to benefit the Make-A-Wish Foundation and the Francis Ouimet Scholarship Fund.

Registration will begin at 9:00 a.m., and breakfast will take place from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. The tournament itself will commence at 11:00 a.m. with a shotgun start/scramble format. Lunch will be served on the course, as will refreshments (ice cream and beverages).

The cocktail hour take place from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m., and the post-tournament dinner and awards presentation will last from 6:00 p.m. to ???

Special events will comprise this golf tournament, including a \$15,000 putting contest (qualifying from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.); five hole-in-one opportunities, with cars on all five par 3's; gross and net prizes; closest-to-the-pin prizes; and longest drive prizes.

The entry fee is \$150 per individual, which includes golf fees, carts, breakfast, lunch, dinner, open bar, awards reception, goody bag, entry to all special events, and use of the clubhouse facilities.

If you're interested in just the dinner and open bar, the cost is \$50. This tournament is limited to 180 players, so sign up early. (The reservation deadline is July 7th.)

In addition, sponsorships are available for this event, including gold sponsorships (\$2,500), silver sponsorships (\$1,500), bronze sponsorships (\$1,000), flag sponsorships (\$200), and hole sponsorships (\$150).

For further information about the tournament and/or sponsorships packages, and to receive a registration form, please contact either of the tournament co-chairs: Paul Scheer, Aaron Posnik & Co., Springfield, 733-5238, or Paul Strycharz, Oak Ridge Golf Club, 786-5886.

"Golf Tip Of The Week..."

by Eric Nelson, PGA
Head Golf Professional
Oak Ridge Golf Club
Feeding Hills, MA



Stance width...

Here, as always, the middle road is the wise road.

With a driver, one should stand so that the feet are placed apart the width of the shoulders as measured from outside the shoulders to the inside of the feet. Lines drawn from just outside the shoulders will intersect the ground at the insides of the feet.

The stance width diminishes as the club gets shorter to the point where (with a wedge) the feet should be clearly within the shoulders.

We have moved from a point where the feet are outside the shoulders to one where they are inside the shoulders.

Basketball World to host summer camps

Basketball World will conduct two weeks of Day Camp for boys and girls ages eight to 18.

The boys' week will be from July 28th through August 1st; the girls' week will be August 4th through August 8th.

The camps will be held at Suffield Academy in Suffield, CT.

The camps are under the direction of Toronto Raptors Advance Pro Scout Paul Wissel, and Sacramento Kings Advance Pro Scout Scott Wissel.

The special guest instructor at the camps will be Memphis Grizzlies Assistant Coach Hal Wissel.

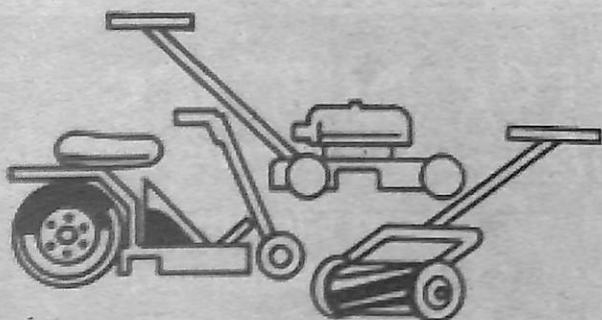
"We give campers the same teachings we give NBA players," said Hal Wissel.

Teachings focus on basketball fundamentals and building the players' self-confidence.

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For a brochure and more information, call toll-free 888-812-5452 or visit www.basketballworld.com.

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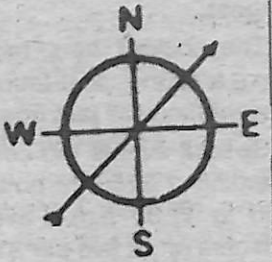
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Wissel, Sacramento Kings. Call **888-812-5452** or visit www.basketballworld.com.

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While
Supplies Last!

- Stores allowed to substitute tires as needed.
- Road Hazard Insurance Extra.
- Certain Restrictions Apply.
- See store for details.

Select 13" Tires*

4 FOR \$99

INCLUDES INSTALLATION. Sales Tax Extra

P155/80R13 P175/80R13
P155/SR13 P185/80R13
P165/80R13

Select 14" Tires*

4 FOR \$139

INCLUDES INSTALLATION. Sales Tax Extra

P175/65R14 P195/75R14
P185/65R14 P195/70R14
P195/65R14 P185/60R14
P185/75R14 P195/60R14
P185/70R14

Select 15" Tires*

4 FOR \$159

INCLUDES INSTALLATION. Sales Tax Extra

P185/65R15 P215/70R15
P195/65R15 P215/65R15
P205/65R15 P235/75R15
P205/70R15

OIL CHANGE & FILTER

- INSTALL NEW FILTER
 - INCLUDES REFILL OF UP TO 5 QTS. KENDALL® 10W-30 MOTOR OIL
 - LUBRICATE CHASSIS (if applicable)
- Additional \$2.75 Oil Disposal Fee
- WITH COUPON OFFER EXP. 6/30/03

SALE PRICE
\$12.99

MAINTENANCE TUNE-UP

- VISUALLY INSPECT IGNITION WIRES, DISTRIBUTOR CAP/ROTOR, FILTERS
 - INSTALL BOSCH SPARK PLUGS
 - SET TIMING & IDLE (if applicable)
 - ROAD TEST VEHICLE
- \$29.99** 4 Cyl.
- 6 Cyl. - \$39.99 8 cyl. \$49.99
Transverse V-6 engine extra.
Platinum plugs & AC interference extra
- WITH COUPON OFFER EXP. 6/30/03

AIR CONDITIONING PERFORMANCE CHECK

- INSPECT VEHICLE HOSES, FITTINGS & COMPRESSOR
 - ADJUST A/C BELT
 - PERFORM SYSTEM LEAK TEST
 - RUN PERFORMANCE TEST
- \$39.99** Refrigerant extra.
- Certain states require added refrigerant to be removed from leaking system.
- WITH COUPON OFFER EXP. 6/30/03

BRAKE SERVICE

- INSTALL BRAKE PADS
 - RESURFACE ROTORS
 - INSPECT BRAKE HOSES
 - TEST DRIVE VEHICLE
- \$69.99** Organic Pads
Semi-Metallic Pads \$79.99
- Most vehicles require semi-metallic pads. Prices most vehicles, per axle. Grease seals and wheel bearing repack extra, if needed.
- WITH COUPON OFFER EXP. 6/30/03

Firestone

AMERICA'S HOME FOR TIRES & SERVICE

90 days same as cash!

NO INTEREST NO ANNUAL FEE

ExpertTire

EVERYDAY DISCOUNT PRICES

NORTHAMPTON

327 King Street 413-586-1584

SPRINGFIELD

1666 Boston Rd 413-543-1312

W. SPRINGFIELD

501 Memorial Ave. 413-737-5392

ENFIELD, CT

33 Palomba Drive 860-741-6550

PITTSFIELD

174 South Street 413-443-9196

WESTFIELD

322 E. Main Street 413-568-8981

An additional 6% of labor charges will be added for shop time, up to a maximum of \$25.00 not applicable in California, Florida, or New York. Specific product offerings and tire designs may vary. Prices, warranties, MasterCare Car Service, credit plans and other offers available at Firestone Tire & Service Centers and Tire Station, are affiliated dealers listed for their competitive offers and warranties. *If you do not activate guaranteed savings, your Firestone tire will replace your tire on a prorated basis. Actual tread may vary. All warranties apply only to original owner on properly installed vehicle. See retailer for details, restrictions, & copy of each limited warranty. †Credit terms made available by Credit First, National Association. Minimum monthly payment required. No interest for 90 days on qualifying purchases. Account interest assessed from original purchase date through beginning of 6th billing cycle if not paid in full within 180 days. Offer begins December 31, 2002. Subject to credit approval. Interest at a variable rate of 21.84% APR as of January 1, 2002 (APR may vary). Minimum finance charge \$0.50. See store for details. *Offer good on qualifying Leases for purchases made between March 31 and April 27, 2002. Does not include shipping, handling and sales tax. Phone orders only. Cannot be combined with any other offer or used to reduce an outstanding debt. One certificate per household. Offer while supplies last. Coupon has no cash value and cannot be combined with any other offer. See store for details.